FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 098 21 May 1986

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Foreign Ministry Press Conference on Chemical Weapons AA 1
Officials Respond to Questions AA 2
Bogachev: U.S. MBFR Proposal 'Variant of Zero Option' AA 3
U.S. To Deploy 'Fully' Outfitted MX in Wyoming AA 4
Space Arms Delegations Hold Meetings in Geneva AA 4
U.S. Attempting To Justify Nuclear Test Explosions [Ponomarev] AA 5
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA: West Rejects Arms Cuts [Dodonov 17 May] AA 6

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Security Committee Issues Letter on Chernobyl [PRAVDA 17 May] CC 1
Gorbachev Speech Adopted as Official Document CC 1
IAEA Circulates Text CC 1
World Health Assembly Adopts CC 1
AAPSO President Expresses Thanks For Hospitality CC 2
Symposium on CP Ties With Public Movements Held [PRAVDA 17 May] CC 2
UN Conference on Disarmament Held in Tbilisi CC 3
Zhukov Speaks at Meeting CC 3
Delegates Address Conference CC 3
U.S.-EEC Relations Growing 'More Acute' [Maksimov] CC 4
PRAVDA Comments on 'Rimpac-86' Exercises CC 5
Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Andrianov, Volskiy, Nekrasov] CC 6
PRAVDA Deplores Tokyo Failure To Solve Problems [Simoniya in PRAVDA 14 May] CC 12

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Yuriy Dubinin Named Ambassador to U.S. A 1
TASS Notes Homecoming of U.S. Navy 'Murderers' [Orlov] A 1
Moscow Paper Views Prospect of Attack on Syria [Belyayev in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 21 May] A 2
PRAVDA Cites U.S. Papers on Anti-Syria 'Campaign' [17 May] A 3
RSA Cites U.S. Raid on Libya as Precedent for Strike [Kulik] A 4
Daily Denounces Adelman's Remarks on Chernobyl [Ozerov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 18 May] A 5
U.S. Experts Warn of Radiation Leakage Threat [Orekhov] A 6
Dartmouth Conference in Azerbaijan Closes A 6
U.S. Micronesian Policy of 'Neoglobalism' Hit [Kondrashov in IZVESTIYA 15 May] A 7
Poindexter Urges Support of U.S. Neoglobalism [Shalnev] A 9

SOUTH ASIA

PRAVDA Reports Najibullah Speech to Kabul Committee [16 May] D 1
DRA Leader Meets With Army Units, Organizations D 2
Addresses Army Conference D 2
Meets With Border Troops [PRAVDA 19 May] D 3
Visits Air Unit [Oliynik in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 18 May] D 3
Kabul Approves USSR-DRA Cooperation Measures [PRAVDA 20 May] D 4

EASTERN EUROPE

Arkhipov Attends Economic Talks in SFRY [IZVESTIYA 16 May] F 1
Kapitonov Receives SED Counterpart [PRAVDA 17 May] F 1
IZVESTIYA Interviews CSSR Premier on Economic Tasks [9 May] F 2
CPCZ' Kempny Outlines Post-Congress Goals [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 13 May] F 5
Bulgarian Agrarian Congress Greeted F 7
Materials on Gorbachev GDR Visit Published [PRAVDA 14 May] F 7

WESTERN EUROPE

Reportage on Spanish Prime Minister's Visit G 1
Ryzhkov, Gonzalez Begin Talks G 1
Ryzhkov Dinner Speech G 2
Gonzalez Dinner Speech G 4
Meets Gorbachev G 6
Meets Gromyko G 7
Meets Ryzhkov 20 May G 8
Documents Signed G 8
Ministers Discuss Economics G 9
Agreement on Fertilizer Complex G 9
Further on Trade G 9
Shevardnadze, Counterpart Meet G 10
Gonzalez Honors 'Unknown Soldier' G 10
Attends Bolshoy Performance G 10
Gives Press Conference G 10
IZVESTIYA Lists Greeting Party [20 May] G 12
Gorbachev Meets Portuguese CP Leader [PRAVDA 21 May] G 12
Gromyko Receives Italian Christian Association President G 13
Economic Talks With Sweden Open 20 May G 14
TASS Commentary: 'Revanchism' Gaining Strength in FRG [Grigoriyev] G 14

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Lizichev Departs 19 May for Official Talks With Syria [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 May] H 1
IZVESTIYA Reports Syrian Response to U.S.-Israeli 'Threat' [19 May] H 1
Husayn Receives Katushev Delegation 21 May [Ostalskky] H 2
Iraqi Reportage on Talks [cross-reference] H 2

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

TASS Carries Government Statement on South Africa Raid J 1
Foreign Ministry Spokesman J 2
Burkina Faso Envoy Presents Credentials [IZVESTIYA 14 May] J 2

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Latest Developments on Chernobyl Reported R 1
Shcherbitskiy, Lyashko Visit Evacuees R 1
Velikhov Updates Containment Work R 1
Evacuees Undergo Checkups R 2
Western Embassies Refuse Trip to Kiev [AFP] R 2
Blix, Rosen Interviewed on Visit R 3
[Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 20 May]
Tashkent Hosts Republic-Level Party Work Conference R 9
Conference Ends R 10
Azerbaijan Party, Government Approve Development Plan R 10

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Ukrainian Agro-Industrial Official on Chernobyl Aftermath T 1
[Luzgan in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 16 May]
Mud Slides Destroy Roads, Bridges in Uzbekistan T 3
CSA Reports Progress in Spring Field Work T 4
[Gavrichkin in IZVESTIYA 15 May]
Early May Weather, Crop Status Reported T 5
[Grishina in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 14 May]

FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD201612 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1407 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- The course now being conducted by the United States and a number of its NATO allies in trying to gain bloc approval for a chemical weapons rearmament program has the potential for extremely dangerous consequences, stated Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department speaking today at a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists that was devoted to banning chemical weapons. It is no accident that our news conference is devoted to this problem, he continued. To a large extent the question is now being decided as to whether events will proceed toward the complete elimination of this barbaric means of mass destruction as is being demanded by people ever more insistently, or if the world will be hurled into an extremely dangerous spiral in a chemical race as result of initiating [razvertyvaniye] the production of a new type of these weapons -- binary weapons -- in the United States.

Also taking part in the news conference were Gennadiy Stashevskiy, deputy head of the USSR Foreign Ministry International Organizations Department; Major General Anatoliy Kuntsevich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Colonel Aleksandr Kutepov. Both of the latter are Defense Ministry experts.

The extirpation of chemical weapons is an absolutely essential element in building secure peace in the system of general security that the USSR proposes to construct with the joint efforts of all states, said Anatoliy Kuntsevich. Chemical disarmament would be of particularly beneficial importance for Europe, a continent where the extremely mighty military groups of NATO and the Warsaw Pact face each other.

Those taking part in the news conference noted that while coming out consistently for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the century, the USSR considers it essential to achieve the complete liberation of mankind from chemical weapons in the same period too. To this end, it is making active efforts in the framework of the United Nations, at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, and in bilateral contacts with the United States. Along with this, the USSR favors the implementation of a number of intermediate steps toward such a radical understanding, for the adoption of measures on preventing the spread of chemical weapons, and freeing individual areas of the work from them.

Washington plans to modernize its chemical arsenal using binary systems, increasing chemical ammunition stocks from 3 to 5 million units over 5 years. It is planned to spend $10 billion on this. However, the U.S. Congress has made the actual start of binary weapons production dependent on gaining the agreement of the NATO allies for the modernization of U.S. chemical weapons. The United States will try to push through a decision in favor of producing binary weapons at the session of the NATO Planning Group at defense minister level on 21-22 May. Hence, in practice whether a new spiral in the chemical arms race begins now depends on the stand adopted by the governments of the other NATO countries on this issue.

It was noted at the news conference that Washington directly links the implementation of the U.S. plans to produce binary weapons with plans to subsequently site them in Western Europe -- which threatens to turn heavily populated areas of the European Continent into a potential theater of chemical war. Meanwhile, it is primarily the civilian population, which unlike the armed forces is absolutely defenseless in the face of this barbaric means of mass annihilation, that would be the main victim.

Real prospects for success have arisen in recent months at the talks for the complete prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons in Geneva. This has become formulated into a plan of principles in the speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January, and then put to the Conference on Disarmament in a concrete form on 22 April by the USSR delegation. These proposals take into account the opinions of many member-states at the talks, including the United States and other Western countries. They envisage a set of measures that provides for a quick start to destroying chemical arsenals, the timely announcement of the siting of places where chemical weapons are produced, the ending of their operation, and the elimination of them under reliable systematic international control.

It is precisely at this moment that Washington and those NATO allies supporting its ambitions are setting themselves the aim of inundating our planet with new, even more concentrated chemical weapons. Those who are making the decision in favor of binary weapons must be aware of the full responsibility of the consequences of this step, it was stressed at the news conference.

Officials Respond to Questions

LD201721 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- A press conference for Soviet and foreign reporters devoted to the problem of banning chemical weapons was held here today. Taking part in the conference were Chief of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry Vladimir Lomeyko, Deputy Chief of the Department of the International Organizations of the USSR Foreign Ministry Gennadiy Stashevskiy, experts of the USSR Foreign Ministry -- corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Anatoliy Kuntsevich and Colonel Aleksandr Kutepov.

Answering the question as to how the matters stand with the implementation of the Soviet-U.S. agreements at the summit level, aimed at the removal of chemical danger, Gennadiy Stashevskiy said that on January 15 the USSR proposed a concrete programme of ridding humanity of chemical weapons before the end of the century. Following that, the Soviet Union submitted to the Geneva Conference on Disarmament new constructive proposals that make it posible to overcome many of the obstacles to agreeing on a number of important provisions of the convention being drafted. The United States delegation, on its part, has not taken a step toward reaching arrangement at the talks. The U.S. side is stepping up the efforts in quite a different direction: Toward a speedy implementation of a large-scale programme of chemical rearming. This approach does not agree with the Geneva arrangements at all.

Components of binary weapons can also be secretly produced on territories of various states, and this is particularly difficult to control. Hence, the very production of binary weapons is aimed at bypassing a declaration on banning chemical weapons which might be concluded. And finally, separate components can easily be camouflaged as various substances, taken to territories of other states and stored there. Moreover, other countries might follow the United States example in the production of binary weapons and then these highly dangerous and horrible weapons will proliferate all over the world.

Colonel Kutepov pointed out that implementation of the U.S. programme for the production of binary weapons would seriously poison the atmosphere at the talks on chemical weapons ban, would undermine the trust necessary for advancing the talks. Moreover, the problem of control, which, because of specific features of chemical production, is not simple as it is, would be complicated considerably.

Major General Kuntsevich refuted the allegations of Washington's representatives that components of binary charges are not dangerous. Quite the contrary, each separate component is highly toxic, to the degree of hydrogen cyanide, he said. Anatoliy Kuntsevich pointed to a very dangerous nature of the production of binary weapons. Their components can be changed during the use, which will render the adversary unprepared for defence.

Answering the question about the arrangement between the FRG and the USA, specifically on the question of the deployment of U.S. chemical weapons in the FRG territory, the participants in the press conference emphasized that this arrangement helps create a situation when the question of the appearance of binary weapons in the territory of the FRG, just as in the territories of other West European countries, is as if predetermined, and this is the essence of the matter. On the whole, the participants in the press conference noted, the FRG is obediently fulfilling all the plans worked out in Washington. Suffice it to recall the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, other plans to deploy offensive armaments in the European theatre, and the SDI programme.

The point of the matter now is the deployment of an additional arsenal of chemical weapons which are advanced to forward positions close to Warsaw Treaty countries, the Soviet Union, which seriously aggravates the situation in the European theatre and particularly in the FRG zone.

It was pointed out at the press conference that the Soviet Union supports and highly appreciates the initiatives of the governments of the German Democratic Republic, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Romania to create zones free from chemical weapons in central Europe and in the Balkans. The Soviet Union views these initiatives as a contribution to the efforts aimed at ridding peoples of the European Continent of chemical menace as soon as possible.

Touching upon the question of the possibility of unilateral moratorium on the production and testing of chemical weapons patterned on the moratorium on nuclear explosions, Major General Kuntsevich noted that the Soviet Union, unlike the United States, does not see special advantages of chemical weapons and does not stockpile these weapons. Vladimir Lomeyko stressed in this connection that in this sphere there cannot be unilateral advance over a long period of time and there cannot be only unilateral proposals from the Soviet Union. The proposals on chemical weapons set forth by the Soviet side in Geneva await their implementation, await a favourable attitude from Western powers.

BOGACHEV: U.S. MBFR PROPOSAL 'VARIANT OF ZERO OPTION'

LD201848 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS Military News Analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

In response to the Soviet compromise proposal to eliminate American and Soviet medium-range missiles in the European zone on condition of a United States pledge not to provide its allies in Europe with additional strategic and medium-range missiles the United States Administration suggested a worsened variant of the odious "zero option".

When stating its readiness to "eliminate a whole class of medium-range missiles" the United States actually proposes to liquidate all the Soviet missiles of this class. At the same time the fulfilment of the American plan provides for the preservation of American nuclear missiles on board United States naval ships in the Far East, in South Korea, in Japan and also in the Philippines, Diego Garcia Island, and at other United States bases in Asia.

More than that, Washington reserves the right to continue building up its nuclear missiles in these regions. It is well known that in the Far East alone the United States has deployed thousands of nuclear warheads, including medium-range missiles. According to the American plan these powerful nuclear forces of the United States should not be opposed by a single Soviet medium-range missile.

More than that, even the elimination of the United States medium-range missile in Western Europe under the American plan is to have a purely symbolical character. When its "comprehensive plan" is to be implemented Washington insists on the right not to liquidate its missiles in Western Europe but to hand them over to Britain and France!

In accordance with Washington's proposal the nuclear forces of the American allies in Europe are not subject to any limitations as well.

In an interview to the Austrian newspaper DIE PRESSE the head of the Pentagon Caspar Weinberger stated on Monday that the United States had "thoroughly studied" the Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles and arrived at the conclusion that "they are based on intent to tip the balance of forces in favour of the Soviet Union." As to the American proposals, which provide for a United States monopoly on medium-range missiles in Asia and a monopoly of NATO countries on such arms in Europe, they, to quote Weinberger, are "fair and balanced".

For five years now Washington is trying to assure the world public that the only reliable road to disarmament lies supposedly through the uncontrolled increase of NATO's nuclear arsenals. The administration in Washington says that it is possible to stop nuclear tests only if these tests are intensively conducted by the United States. Now, as though mocking the common sense of people, Weinberger in his interview to the newspaper DIE PRESSE describes the American proposals on the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union as a "comprehensive programme in the field of arms control."

The dishonest rhetoric of the head of the Pentagon reflects Washington's dishonest policy in the field of arms limitation and reduction.

U.S. TO DEPLOY 'FULLY' OUTFITTED MX IN WYOMING

LD202124 Moscow TASS in English 2308 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] New York May 20 TASS -- The first fully fitted out MX missile will be deployed at its silo in the south of the Wyoming state within the next 30 days, informed USAF representatives. AP dispatch indicates in this context that all in all, it is planned to deploy in Wyoming 50 such ICBM's with 10 independently targetable warheads. Political analysts write that construction and deployment of these missiles are a part of the Reagan administration's general course for strengthening the nuclear first-strike potential.

SPACE ARMS DELEGATIONS HOLD MEETING IN GENEVA

LD201116 Moscow TASS in English 1059 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Geneva May 20 TASS -- The group on space arms held a meeting here today in the framework of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

U.S. ATTEMPTING TO JUSTIFY NUCLEAR TEST EXPLOSIONS

LD201743 Moscow TASS in English 1601 GMT 20 May 86

["USSR's Moratorium Means Serious Attitude to Disarmament" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India, in an interview with a TASS correspondent, has said that India welcomes the Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until August 6 of this year. This step shows, the head of the Indian Government pointed out, that the USSR maintains a very serious attitude to nuclear disarmament.

Such an evaluation quite accurately describes the Soviet Union's stand on such matter which is so important to the whole of mankind as the removal of the nuclear danger. As of today, to end nuclear tests is the most urgent and paramount task.

It is essential to stop all nuclear explosions before concrete measures for limiting and reducing nuclear arms are elaborated, first of all between the USSR and the USA, and before machinery for comprehensive control over disarmament is worked out. To do that means to stop the upgrading of ever new specimens of nuclear weapons through nuclear tests. Of course, this does not mean that all nuclear-disarmament matters can be put aside and that the green light should be given only to the termination of nuclear explosions.

All matters connected with the removal of the nuclear danger should be the subject of urgent agreements. But an end to nuclear tests is a matter of particular urgency. This is why the Soviet Union will voluntarily, unilaterally continue to abide by the moratorium for a whole year -- since August 6, 1985, when it first took this obligagion upon itself, until August 6 of this year. On May 14, while extending the moratorium once again, the USSR again urged the United States to weigh in all seriousness the extent of danger which hangs over mankind and to listen to the international community's opinion demanding an end to nuclear explosions. They in Washington stubbornly refuse to follow the Soviet Union's example. Moreover, in so doing, they try not only to justify their policy of continuation of nuclear weapon testing but also to present the Soviet moratorium as a "propaganda move" and as "some trick which is aimed at distracting attention."

Upon sound consideration, it is rather difficult to imagine how the Soviet Union's real, concrete measures aimed at ending nuclear explosions and consequently at suspending the sophistication of weapons can be propaganda moves (?)! Explosions have not been conducted for the tenth month already!

For their part, Washington spokesmen state that it is necessary to conduct nuclear tests "to maintain the reliability and credibility" of U.S. deterrent systems. In so doing, they even theorize: If the concept of deterrent is recognized, it means that the need for nuclear tests should be inevitably recognized as well (?)! This is only a clumsy manoeuvre, since an end to nuclear explosions is no hindrance to deterrence and even gives an opportunity for the sides to move on to lower equal levels of armaments within the framework of the selfsame concept of deterrence until complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The matter is, however, that Washington seeks military superiority over the USSR, and not lower levels of nuclear potentials. And that means a still more dangerous spiral of the race of arms, of nuclear ones, in the first place.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA: WEST REJECTS ARMS CUTS

PM191434 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 May 86 Second Edition p 5

[V. Dodonov article under the rubric "Policy of Peace Against Policy of War": "To Withdraw From Circulation"]

[Text] The Soviet Union deems it its paramount duty to do everything possible to improve the situation in the international arena and stop the world from sliding toward a nuclear catastrophe. The nuclear age imperatively demands a new approach toward international relations and the pooling of efforts by states with different social systems for the sake of terminating the fatal arms race and radically improving the world political climate. The Chernobyl accident demonstrated yet again the yawning abyss that would open up should a nuclear war befall mankind. After all, the nuclear arsenals that have been accumulated are fraught with thousands upon thousands of nuclear catastrophes far more terrible than the one at Chernobyl.

A realistic way to solve this problem is offered by the program for the complete elimination of nuclear, chemical, and other mass destruction weapons by the end of this century put forward by the Soviet state. This program stands out as a thoroughly elaborated whole, specific in terms of both its procedure and its implementation schedule. The balance of forces currently prevailing in the world would be maintained at all stages of its implementation, but at an increasingly lower level.

The Soviet concept of nuclear disarmament and universal security corresponds with the specific interests and aspirations of all people on our planet -- to withdraw nuclear weapons from circulation. It has captured the imagination of millions of people in all continents and has received ardent approval and support from Soviet citizens as well as wide circles abroad.

Against this background, the West's attempts to raise doubts about the possibility of accelerating in practice the solution of the immediate problem of our time -- the destruction of nuclear weapons -- appear less and less convincing. For example, Washington administration spokesmen have repeatedly claimed that the United States has apparently set as its ultimate goal "progress toward the total elimination of nuclear weapons." Now that an opportunity does exist to tackle in practice the question of nuclear disarmament, they are "engaging" in reverse gear: The fine words about eliminating these weapons have receded into the background. Something quite different is now "fashionable" for certain Western politicians: Assurances of unconditional commitment to the "star wars" program, claims concerning the "necessity" for the United States to continue testing nuclear devices in order to overcome an alleged "lag" behind the USSR, imaginary "difficulties" in implementing monitoring [kontrol] of the process of nuclear disarmement, and other excuses.

People in the West try to justify on various grounds the "legitimacy" of preserving nuclear weapons for an indefinitely long period. "The complete destruction of nuclear weapons," White House spokesman Speakes prophesied, "demands the simultaneous equalization of imbalances in conventional and other arms, the observance of treaty obligations, and the peaceful settlement of regional conflicts." Statements like this offer vivid proof of Washington's lack of political will and desire to resolve the most vital and acute problem of our time.

In the opinion of the overwhelming majority of specialists and authoritative scientists, the termination of nuclear tests and the conclusion of an all-embracing treaty on the complete prohibition of nuclear tests would constitute a very important practical step aimed at halting the nuclear arms race. This would obstruct the further improvement of existing nuclear weapons and the creation [sozdaniye] of new ones and would help to diminish the nuclear threat.

But the Pentagon, despite the demands of the world public and ignoring calls by statesmen from countries on different continents, continues the implementation of its nuclear program. It is well known that this program is aimed at the creation [sozdaniye] of new types of weapons, including nuclear-pumped x-ray lasers. This type of laser is needed for space-strike weapons.

The complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone on a reciprocal basis would be a very substantial contribution to the improvement of the international situation. With a view to facilitating the achievement of agreement the USSR is prepared to examine the question of medium-range missiles separately, outside any immediate link with the problem of space and strategic weapons. But Washington is unwilling to resolve this question fairly, with due consideration for mutual security. Furthermore, resorting to the hackneyed bogy of "the Soviet military threat," it is continuing to frighten the West Europeans with Soviet missiles. At the same time it is making efforts to build up the impression that the U.S. Pershing-2 and ground-based cruise missiles somehow symbolize the "unbreakable ties" between the interests of U.S. and West European security.

Western propagandists are shouting themselves hoarse in connection with some imaginary "imperfections" in the Soviet plan for the elimination of nuclear weapons and about the alleged defenselessness of the West and of Europe in particular in the face of "superior" Soviet nonnuclear forces, which would allegedly ensue from such a liquidation. These pseudo-arguments were totally demolished by the new Soviet initiatives outlined by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at the 11th SED Congress in Berlin and in his 14 May speech on Soviet television.

The Soviet Government, having weighed all the factors affecting the security of its own people and all of mankind, decided to extend its moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August. "We again call on the United States," M.S. Gorbachev stressed, "to weigh with the utmost responsibility the danger hanging over mankind and to heed the world community's opinion. Let those who head the United States demonstrate by deeds their concern for people's life and health." There was a simultaneous confirmation of the proposal to hold an urgent meeting with President Reagan in the capital of any European state or, say, Hiroshima, and to reach agreement on a nuclear test ban.

The most zealous champions of nuclear missiles and bombs are diligently trying to prove that any program for nuclear disarmament is not feasible in practice since, according to their claims, it is impossible to establish that all nuclear systems have been destroyed. Moreover, they say, technical knowledge in the nuclear sphere will be preserved. "The technology for the creation [sozdaniye] of nuclear weapons has been in existence for 40 years now, and there is no way to wipe this knowledge from mankind's memory. A nuclear weapons ban will not and cannot take place. We must learn to coexist with nuclear weapons," THE WASHINGTON TIMES suggests.

The Western mass news media draw a sinister conclusion. There are, it appears, some "figures" who consider that the fear of a nuclear war offers the best guarantee for preventing world war III. By the looks of it, people in NATO capitals have gotten used to nuclear weapons and link certain plans in the international arena with them. Confirmation of this is provided by M. Thatcher's statement in an interview with THE TIMES: "I cannot imagine the world without nuclear weapons." The people demand real progress in the cause of reducing nuclear arsenals. The USSR is prepared for this. And the Western politicians, whether they want to or not, will also have to answer the question: Are they altogether prepared to say farewell to nuclear, as well as chemical and other types of mass destruction weapons? Are they prepared for specific steps, practical actions, and real agreements to curb the arms race?

SECURITY COMMITTEE ISSUES LETTER ON CHERNOBYL

PM201355 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 86 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Voice of the Soviet Public"]

[Text] The Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation has sent a letter to the national committees for European security and cooperation and representatives of public, political, and scientific circles in a number of countries in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. "We regard this tragedy," the letter says, "as another terrible warning that the nuclear age requires new political thinking and a new policy. It must not be forgotten that in an interdependent world, problems of the military atom exist alongside the problems of the peaceful atom."

The Soviet public welcomes and supports the Soviet Government decision, announced by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to extend the USSR's unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August 1986.

It is important to seek to ensure that the Soviet Union's proposals are taken up by the other side and that the leaders of the USSR and the United States meet with a view to achieving a mutual accord on ending nuclear explosions, which would be an important step along the path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

GORBACHEV SPEECH ADOPTED AS OFFICIAL DOCUMENT

IAEA Circulates Text

LD210511 Moscow TASS in English 1614 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Vienna, May 20 TASS -- The text of the speech delivered by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Soviet TV on May 14 was circulated here as an official document of the board of directors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA.

Other texts circulated as official documents include the text of the communique on a visit by IAEA director-general, Hans Blix, to the Soviet Union between May 5-May 9, 1986, at the invitation of the Government of the USSR and the text of his report on this visit. Blix's report notes that discussed at the talks held during the visit were a number of considerations and possible actions aimed at a broader cooperation within the framework of IAEA on enhancing nuclear safety and lessening the consequences of nuclear accidents.

World Health Assembly Adopts

LD161032 Moscow TASS in English 1018 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Geneva May 16 TASS -- The text of the May 14, 1986, televised address by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has been circulated as an official document of the 39th World Health Assembly, currently under way here.

AAPSO PRESIDENT EXPRESSES THANKS FOR HOSPITALITY

LD191228 Moscow TASS in English 1131 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- "I will not forget the days spent here in Moscow during the session of the Council of Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO). The forum made an important contribution to the movement of solidarity of the peoples on two continents and became a new major step toward expanding and strengthening it," 'Abd al-Rahman al-Charkaoui, AAPSO's president, told a TASS correspondent before departure for home.

"The resolutions passed by the session and the unanimous conclusion to which its delegates arrived after discussing major problems facing not only Asia and Africa, but the world as a whole, enable me to say that the session was a complete success. Its special historical feature is that it was held soon after the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union which reaffirmed the determination of the U.S.S.R. to save the world from a nuclear holocaust, and to support liberation movements of the peoples of the developing countries."

"Envoys of scores of countries, as the session demonstrated, have come to realize the historic importance of the present moment," 'Abd al-Rahman al-Charkaoui went on to say.

"This is why they expressed profound concern over and preoccupation with the threat of nuclear war which looms large and dark over the world through the fault of U.S. imperialism, and enthusiastically welcomed the constructive peace proposals of the U.S.S.R. aimed at ridding the world of nuclear weapons.

"The delegates to the Moscow forum expressed their unanimous support for the peoples of Arab countries, for the peoples in southern Africa and Asia working to defend their national independence and sovereignty, to promote peace, social progress and democracy," the AAPSO president said.

"Envoys of different countries called for more vigorous resistance to forces of imperialism, racism, Zionism, and the U.S. policy of neoglobalism. They also called for the establishment of a new international economic and information order.

"I would like to express profound gratitude," the AAPSO president said in conclusion, "to all Soviet friends who ensured the success of the session and to thank the Soviet people and its leadership for the hospitality accorded to us."

SYMPOSIUM ON CP TIES WITH PUBLIC MOVEMENTS HELD

PM191501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "International Symposium"]

[Text] Vienna, 16 May -- An international symposium has ended here on problems of communists' cooperation with new public movements in the industrially developed capitalist countries, organized jointly by the Communist Party of Austria and the editorial board of the journal PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM. Taking part were representatives of the Communist Parties of Belgium, Denmark, and Portugal, the German Communist Party, the Swiss Labor Party, and the Communist Left Party of Sweden.

The speakers noted the importance of Soviet peace initiatives, including the Soviet Government's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests to 6 August of this year. During the discussion of problems of the ecological movement, the participants in the symposium stressed that scientific and technical achievements and their introduction, in the conditions of state monopoly capitalism, entail as a rule a serious threat to the environment and to the working people's social gains, while in the conditions of socialism science and technology serve public interests.

UN CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT HELD IN TBILISI

Zhukov Speaks at Meeting

LD192016 Moscow TASS in English 1928 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Tbilisi May 19 TASS -- The worldwide campaign for disarmament received warm support from the Soviet Union, said Jan Martenson, a U.N. undersecretary-general and the head of the Department for Disarmament Affairs. Stressing that the curbing of the arms race is an overriding concern, he hailed Soviet initiatives in the field of international security and disarmament.

Jan Martenson addressed the U.N. regional conference which opened in the capital of Georgia today within the framework of the world campaign for disarmament and the international year of peace. Issues on the agenda include curbing the arms race, preventing militarisation of outer space and strengthening security and confidence-building measures.

The conference is attended by representatives of non-governmental organisations, the World Peace Council, the Geneva Special Committee of Non-Governmental Organisations on Disarmament, the World Federation of United Nations Associations as well as by scientists, diplomats and public leaders from European countries, the USA and Canada.

Greeting the participants in the conference, Orat Cherkeziya, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Georgian Republic, expressed confidence that the meeting would be another step towards constructive dialogue and cooperation between states and peoples in the name of peace and progress.

Yuriy Zhukov, chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, spoke about the active participation of Soviet people in the world campaign for disarmament. He said that more than 63 million Soviet people took part in a recent week of struggle for general security sponsored by the World Peace Council.

The peoples can and must press for the International Year of Peace to become in mankind's history the year of a beginning of a comprehensive system of international security and a landmark on the way towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the century.

Delegates Address Conference

LD210409 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Tbilisi, May 20 TASS -- The problem of ending the race of arms, and first of all that of nuclear ones, is the main subject of discussion which began today at a U.N. regional conference on disarmament.

The conference in the capital of Georgia (a Soviet republic in Transcaucasia) is being held within the framework of the U.N.-proclaimed International Year of Peace. It is being attended by representatives of national organizations and movements, international institutions and centres for the study of the problems of peace, disarmament and international relations as well as by delegations of 14 international organizations. Among them are delegates of the World Peace Council, the Women's International Democratic Federation, the Pugwash movement, and the World Federation of the United Nations Associations.

Representatives of East and West, adhering to various political convictions, have gathered in the white-stone Palace of Celebrations in Tbilisi in order to find close or identical positions on matters aimed at saving the world from a thermonuclear catastrophe.

Vyacheslav Ustinov, U.N. undersecretary-general, the head of the Department on Political and Security Council Affairs, pointed out in his speech that the arms race bore more and more heavily on peoples, and swallowed considerable financial and manpower resources.

Ninan Koshy (Switzerland), secretary of the commission of churches on international affairs of the world Council of Churches, emphasised that the arms production build-up was leading to non-productive expenditure of material resources.

Yevgeniy Primakov, director of the Institute of the World Economy and International Relations, criticized the U.S. doctrine of neoglobalism which leads to the emergence of seats of tension in the world. It is possible to extinguish the hotbeds of war through termination of the West's interference in the internal affairs of sovereign countries. Thereby, an important contribution will be made to strenthening universal peace, academician Primakov emphasised.

Friedrich Ruth, representative of the FRG, took the floor, pointing out the need to strengthen the unity of the peace forces in the struggle to eliminate all kinds of arms -- conventional, nuclear and others. He set out the NATO countries' known stand on disarmament, again raising the question of effective verification. Yuriy Fokin, member of the collegium of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reminded him that the USSR had put forward a concrete programme for universal security through disarmament. The realization of the programme which was set out in the January 15 Statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, would rid mankind of the threat of mass destruction and would open a fundamentally new period of development before mankind and an opportunity to concentrate efforts only on creation. However, he said, the U.S. Administration has not up to now given a positive reply to the Soviet peace initiatives.

U.S.-EEC RELATIONS GROWING 'MORE ACUTE'

LD192012 Moscow TASS in English 1813 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- TASS Commentator Yuriy Maksimov writes:

On an instruction from President Ronald Reagan, the United States clamps down as of today restrictions on the import of a number of foodstuffs and beverages from the European Economic Community (EEC) countries.

This measure, which reflects Washington's power approach to solving trade and economic problems, is motivated by the fact that EEC's expansion to include Spain and Portugal purportedly inflicts damage on U.S. farmers exporting their products to Western Europe.

Faced with brute pressure from Washington which presses hard for unilateral benefits in trade with the Common Market, the Commission of the European Communities decided to respond in kind. It made a proposal without delay to curb access to EEC markets for 14 types of United States farm produce and food industry products. Thus, a real prospect emerged of the escalation in the trade war. Specialists believe that the present conclict may prove to be the fiercest one since the time of the known "chicken war" between the United States and EEC in early 60s.

The current attacks by the Washington administration on the community have been prompted not so much be economic as political considerations. The matter is that elections to the U.S. Cougress are to be held in November, 1986. To secure control of Congress, the Reagan administration should preserve the Republicans' seats from the agricultural states. In the drive for the electorate's votes, the White House makes an attempt to wreck the integral agricultural policy of the Common Market, thus intervening in the community's internal affairs.

The attempts by the Common Market to come to grips with the disputable issues amicably lead nowhere. Each time Washington is out to gain privileged access to West European Markets for products of its farmers.

The relations between the United States and EEC, which grow more acute, are an illustration for the provision of the Political Report, made by CPSU Central Committee to the 27th congress, on the contradictions among imperialist states, which are growing sharper.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON 'RIMPAC-86' EXERCISES

LD200544 Moscow TASS in English 0532 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Commenting on the Rimpac-86 exercises, which began off the Hawaii Islands and in which 50 ships, more than 200 planes and over 50,000 troops of Australia, Britain, Canada, the USA and Japan are taking part, PRAVDA says today: "The 'gap' causes by the absence of New Zealand has been closed in a hurry by a British naval force led by the aircraft carrier Illustrious, which is participating in the Rimpac exercises for the first time. Has the former 'ruler of the seas' been struck by a relapse of old 'sea sickness'? Anyway, London is again setting its sights on targets 'to the east of the Suez,' hoping for a share of the Pacific dividends."

The commentary points out that Britain's participation in Rimpac-86, as the Japanese newspaper ASAHI believes, projects the importance of the exercises beyong the Pacific and lends them a "global scope," which demonstrates "the efficiency of countering the USSR from the Pacific to the Atlantic." All this, PRAVDA stresses, belies the U.S. current course of escalating tension in the Pacific and turning it into another scene of confrontation.

"One gets the impression that neither Washington nor Tokyo nor the Western capitals see the future of Asia and the Pacific out of the context of confrontation between different countries. In this situation Rimpac-86 becomes a sort of lasso thrown by the American new globalists at a whole region of the world in a bid to dominate the countries situated in it," PRAVDA concludes.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD181733 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 18 May 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program, presented by Boris Andrianov, All-Union Radio foreign policy commentator; Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board; and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, KOMMUNIST International Observer]

[Text] [Andrianov] This week Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev gave an address on Soviet television. He spoke of the misfortune that we suffered in Chernobyl where an accident happened at the atomic power station. This accident has brought pain to Soviet people and they have displayed deep humanity and genuine humanism, a high level of morality in their attitude to this extraordinary happening. The misfortune that happened at Chernobyl has moved the international public, too. Throughout the world as a whole, there has been an attitude of understanding over the misfortune that has befallen us and over our actions to deal with the accident in the serious situation that came about.

[Volskiy] In this connection, the CPSU Central Committee general secretary valued highly the sympathy of all those who responded with an open heart to our misfortune and our problems. He expressed deep gratitude to friends from the socialist countries who had shown solidarity with the Soviet people at a difficult period, and expressed recognition to political and public figures in other states for their sincere sympathy and support.

[Andrianov] The objective attitude to events at the Chernobyl atomic power station has stressed once again the truth of the highly humane thesis which states that there is no such thing as someone else's misfortune; for the misfortune that occurred at Chernobyl was brought about by the terrible force that is represented by nuclear energy that has gone out of control. These extraordinary circumstances provide further justification for stating that attitudes to them serve as a kind of yardstick not just of genuine humanity, but even of elementary decency.

[Nekrasov] One therefore cannot ignore and leave outside one's political assessment the obvious way events at Chernobyl were received by governments, by political figures, and by the mass information media in several NATO countries, particularly the United States. They unfolded an unbridled anti-Soviet campaign, heaping up whole mountains of the most dishonest, spiteful falsehood; they engaged in shameful speculation about the accident that had taken place. Writing in this connection, William (Brown), editor of the journal (SURVEY) and an eminent Australian journalist and writer, called Western reaction to events in Chernobyl the most frenzied outburst of anti-Sovietism in recent years.

[Andrianov] Fanning a provocative rumpus, sowing panic among the population, they unleashed a special campaign in the West around the so-called lack of information about the accident at Chernobyl. And what is more, the organizers of this campaign deliberately gave it a political content, making it deeply political in character. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev noted the far-fetched nature of this issue in his address on Soviet television, and for purposes of comparison, recalled the way the U.S. authorities behaved when a tragedy occurred at the Three Mile Island atomic power station in Pennsylvania on 28 March 1979.

[Volskiy] I think that mentioning this was all the more justified in view of the fact that a few days ago, the White House hastened to circulate a so-called factual information bulletin with the aim of creating the impression that the U.S. authorities supposedly gave immediate notification of the tragedy that then happened.

However, the content of this bulletin, if it may be called such, has nothing whatsoever in common with what really happened at Three Mile Island.

[Andrianov] A move like that is of course intended for simpletons. The White House is clearly attempting to act craftily now in order to confuse the public. In fact, it is being caught in this by several organs of the U.S. press. They are the ones that are quoting facts that testify to the authorities' having deliberately misled Americans, keeping silent about the real scale and the real causes of the accident which -- one should note -- was the major one in the history of the United States' atomic industry.

[Nekrasov] Without any exaggeration, one can say here that the tragedy that occurred at Three Mile Island became a kind of symbol, a symbol of the policy of the authorities and the nuclear monopolies in the United States, aimed at deliberately concealing the truth, at any price, about accidents at U.S. atomic power stations. So in this connection, it is not out of place to recall the American saying which runs: Make sure you wash your hands before you point your finger.

[Andrianov] And there is another saying too, which says that clean deeds are not done with dirty hands. This saying is applicable in the most direct way to the campaign -- immoral in the highest degree -- which has been conducted in the West in connection with the misfortune that took place at Chernobyl, for the unscrupulousness of the plans of those who organized this propaganda pandemonium is perfectly obvious. What happened in Chernobyl was quite simply seized upon in the West as a convenient excuse for trying to discredit the Soviet Union and its foreign policy; to weaken the influence of the Soviet proposals about ending nuclear tests and eliminating nuclear weapons; and at the same time to ease criticism of U.S. behavior in the international arena and get rid of the wave of condemnation of Washington's militarist course. To put it plainly, Comrade Gorbachev stressed, some Western politicians have been pursuing quite definite objectives: to block the possibility of smoothing out international relations and sow fresh seeds of mistrust and suspicion toward the socialist countries.

[Volskiy] All of this has been clearly displayed at the meeting of heads of states and governments of the seven most developed capitalist countries in Tokyo. Let me remind you that it took place there from 4 to 6 May. The leaders of the seven countries did not even find time to utter one single word about the latest large-scale peace proposals of the Soviet Union. At the Tokyo conference they effectively pretended that these constructive initiatives simply did not exist.

[Andrianov] The seven issued a special statement in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station. In it one can clearly see the desire of the U.S. Administration to make use of any event in the world to aggravate the international situation and to whip up anti-Soviet hysteria. One cannot make any other assessment of the intention of the U.S. ruling circles and their most zealous allies to look at what happened at Chernobyl just from one particular angle, from the viewpoint of the possibility it offers for placing additional obstacles in the path of the development and deepening of the dialogue between East and West -- which is already moving forward with difficulty -- and of justifying the nuclear arms race. Judging by reports in the Western press, some participants in the Tokyo conference would now like to dissociate themselves from such an interpretation of the significance of the statement by the seven on Chernobyl.

[Nekrasov] I would like to begin by noting the close link that has been created by, well, the coupling in time of international reaction in the world to the Chernobyl accident with the Tokyo conference.

The Tokyo meeting opened, as you remember, a week after the accident, when the whole world was full of reaction to Chernobyl. You have already given a good account of what this amounted to, Boris Vasilyevich.

In this connection I would just like to stress one side: the world public has closely linked the consequences of this accident with the danger that lies in the nuclear warheads that have been built up in the world. In fact, this was bound to happen. The organizers of the hysterical anti-Soviet campaign have, in my view, simply shown their own political short-sightedness when they decided that in splashing around their own pathological hatred, as one might call it, for our country, they would thereby undermine the possibility of any positive accords on ending the arms race. This campaign undoubtedly has done harm to the cause of strengthening international confidence, substantial harm. But another process has started in parallel, a more deep-rooted process and one that is more powerful, I would say, as far as its potential is concerned. This is the process of taking on board, of recognizing the dangers of the nuclear age, which were spoken about in detail at the 27th CPSU Congress: the recognition of these dangers on an emotional level, so to speak. You understand? The level of reason is one thing. At this level it is possible to set against arguments of reason some kind of false statistics, to try to substitute certain concepts for others, in short to confuse and to make fools of people, which is now being done by U.S. official propaganda and by Western propaganda generally, and at times not unsuccessfully.

But the emotional level is quite a different thing. People's feelings of self-preservation, their fear for their children, their terror in the face of an unseen threat that hangs over the world, all these are powerful factors in influencing ways of thinking and they suggest that yes, the accident of the atomic power station is a serious affair, but how many times more serious is the threat to people that is contained in the thousands of nuclear warheads which are primed, as they say? This is something that literally hundreds of millions of people have felt in recent days and this has to be taken into account. In this situation, the leaders of seven countries gathered in Tokyo and, as you said, they uttered not a word about our proposals, about our position which aims to remove this threat that hangs over mankind.

[Andrianov] Those who took part in the Tokyo conference could not, of course, keep silent completely about the main problem of our day, the need to improve the international atmosphere, to end confrontation. The political declaration of the conference mentioned the value of stable and constructive relations between East and West. But this was done in a general, hazy and vague form, and in actual fact, an evident attempt was made to transfer responsibility for the tension that is being maintained, for the blind alley in the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, onto our country. And today, public circles in the West -- as one can judge from reports in the mass media -- are expressing an understandable and legitimate concern over the fact that relying upon Tokyo and making use, so to speak, of the fruits of the anti-Soviet campaign, the diehards in Washington are trying to firmly block any progress in the cause of ending the arms race.

[Nekrasov] I would add that it is not just public circles that are doing this, but the more far-sighted representatives of the West European political world as well. I have in front of me a recent issue of the London TIMES. It writes directly that West European countries which are members of NATO are allegedly feeling, and I quote, ever more serious concern -- that is what the newspaper writes -- that after Chernobyl the United States will toughen its position at the talks and will thus frustrate any possibility of making progress. And so? To this one might reply: And what were you thinking about in Tokyo? Why did you let yourself get under Washington's thumb and agree to the special statement that it imposed about the accident, a statement which was blatantly provocative in its content. But of course, this is not the main point.

The main point is that this concern -- as one can judge from available information -- is to a large extent well founded. What we are talking about is the intention of the U.S. side to make use of the Chernobyl incident to bring the monitoring problem, the verification problem, to the forefront in the talks, and by using it as a shield, to avoid serious discussion on the essentials. In fact, this has already been seen in the negative reply that Washington hastened to give to the new extension of our moratorium on nuclear explosions and to the proposal for a meeting with the U.S. President in order to discuss these issues. This is what they argue: The Soviet Union, supposedly, did not immediately make available complete information about the accident; one cannot, therefore, trust it in connection with any accords. This is actually rubbish. As you know, it was all quite different. This was stressed once again in the address by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. But, this same propaganda line is being continued.

[Andrianov] Reports in the Western press indicate that Washington intends to stall the nuclear arms negotiations with the aid of demands to come to an agreement, in the first instance, on some sort of monitoring and verification measures for the observance of future accords, but it refuses to talk about the essence of these accords, insisting on its former unacceptable proposals which aim to achieve the West's military superiority. Monitoring thus changes into some sort of absolute. They want to substitute real steps on lowering the level of military opposition with talk about monitoring. Of course, there is nothing new in this. The West has resorted to these tactics repeatedly in the past as well. What is new are the attempts to account for this position, allegedly, with the lessons of the Chernobyl accident.

[Nekrasov] Well, as we all know, monitoring, in accordance with the fundamental Soviet position, must be a component part of a disarmament agreement; it must further its implementation, and not be the aim per se, and of course, Chernobyl has absolutely nothing to do with this. There is a correlation between the accident at the nuclear power station and the disarmament talks, but it is a different one altogether. That same TIME article that I mentioned gives away its essence: There is a danger -- the newspapers writes it bluntly -- a danger that, in connection with the accident and its consequences, the activities of the antinuclear organizations are livening up. That is the crux of the matter, as they say. They are frightened of the rise in the public struggle against the nuclear danger, which could jumble all the cards of the militarist circles.

One could cite the following curious detail: Currently, in the capitals of Western countries, they are not infrequently recalling events of 2 years ago, when a mass public struggle unfolded against Pershings and cruise missiles on European soil. They are very afraid of another serious burst of public outcry, protest demonstrations, and so on. And so, in the press over the past few days, for example, they are muffling in every possible way the contradictions between the allies, which manifested themselves after the piratical attack on Libya and which came out in Tokyo. But these contradictions are real, and you will not get away from them, and they are going to make themselves known with a growing force.

Summing up what we have been talking about -- the reactions to the Chernobyl accident and the Tokyo conference -- I would recall Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's words in his speech at the 11th SED Party Congress: The struggle for a peace without soldiers or weapons will be an arduous and lengthy one. The events of the past few days fully confirm this conclusion, and obviously the responsibility that falls to all the peace-loving forces is that much greater. Here the socialist community rises as a reliable barrier on the path of imperialist policy; and do remember that the congresses of a number of communist and workers' parties of fraternal countries held recently have become a weighty confirmation of the fact that our countries continue to be the most consistent fighters for peace and an all-embracing international security.

Over the past few days, the defense organization of the countries in the community -- their military and political alliance embodied in the Warsaw Pact -- was 31 years old. Newspapers in the fraternal countries once again noted during these days that the Warsaw Pact organization not only guarantees peace and security for its participants, but also plays a prominent role in preserving and consolidating peace in Europe and on the whole planet. It was emphasized that the further strengthening of the socialist community's reliable defense shield is essential in the face of NATO's aggressive policy, in particular that of the United States. To us, on the whole, it is obvious that the most realistic way of surmounting the current dangerous area of confrontation is to intensify the search for political solutions in the widest possible scope. There is quite simply no other way that is more reasonable or that corresponds to the current level of development of our technology and our civilization.

[Volskiy] There is no other way to solve the so-called regional conflicts, particularly in the New East. Once again it has become the most potentially explosive zone, or rather, it has been a potentially explosive zone all the time over the past years, but now the danger of an explosion has drawn much nearer than ever before, in connection with the hardening of the U.S. policy of so-called neoglobalism. It began with raids on Libya; this aggression did not achieve its object. They did not succeed in overthrowing Al-Qadhdhafi's anti-imperialist government, and now they have elaborated a plan which could be given the conventional designation: trident. It has three directions, so to speak: another attack against Libya, using not just airplanes but cruise missiles with non-nuclear warheads; a simultaneous attack against Syria which would be carried out not just by the United States on its own, but in alliance with Israel, and maybe by Israel first and foremost; and finally, a possible U.S. military action in the zone of the Persian Gulf, most likely against Iran. They intend to undertake it under the pretext of securing freedom for navigation in this gulf, upset by the Iran-Iraq war. But the main pretext remains the same: unsubstantiated accusations against the above-mentioned countries of sponsoring terrorism, and Syria is being blamed for this particularly loudly, although no evidence whatsoever is being adduced, and the Syrian leadership convincingly refutes such accusations. It looks as if it is indeed Syria which, this time, has been chosen as the main target. In any case, they are already beginning to introduce economic sanctions against her; not just the United States, but some West European countries as well.

[Andrianov] But why is it that Syria, precisely, has found itself to be the target? After all, even the Western press recognizes the mendacious nature of the terrorism accusations against it.

[Volskiy] Well, of course, it's an altogether different question here. Let's begin with the geography. Syria is situated in the very nerve center of the Near East, between Lebanon, Israel, and Jordan. Its Mediterranean ports are known far back into ancient history. All the same, however, the main point lies elsewhere, in the fact that Syria has in recent years become the main bulwark of the Arab world's liberation forces and that it carries out a consistent anti-imperialist policy.

Another point: Syrian and Israeli forces are confronting each other head-on, not in one place but in two. This is in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' Valley because the Syrian contingent from the pan-Arab peace-keeping forces, was deployed there about 10 years ago, at the Lebanese Government's invitation, while the Israelis, as you know, invaded Lebanon without any invitation, as aggressors. And although they were forced to withdraw their forces from the Al-Biqa' Valley a year ago, it later turned out that it was possible for them to redeploy their forces not even in a matter of days, but hours, and indeed, at this moment there is precisely such a concentration there on a highly dangerous scale. Thus, one aggression against Lebanon entails another possible aggression against Syria.

We also see this in Syria's Golan Heights, which Israel seized back in 1967. That is where the main confrontation between Israeli and Syrian forces exists. Recently, at the beginning of the year, I visited these low hills of grey desert soil. Syrian and Israeli military posts are separated by about a couple of hundred meters. True, there is a UN post between them, but it is known that the Israelis have little respect for the UN forces when they decide to undertake military action. Their preparations in the Golan Heights can already be seen with the naked eye from the Syrian side. The Golan Heights have become literally overgrown with a forest, not of trees, but of kinds of masts and other structures of an obvious military nature. Mainly, these are electronic reconnaissance facilities that have been put into operation in preparation for aggression against Syria.

[Andrianov] But Dmitriy Antonovich, the Israeli leaders declare that they do not intend to attack Syria now.

[Volskiy] Well, first of all, I think, Boris Vasilyevich, that one should judge not by words but by specific preparations, by deeds. Secondly, there are also other statements composed in a very ornate manner but that leave no doubt. An attack is being prepared, although it is difficult to predict the time that might be selected for it. The situation is developing rapidly and I would not undertake to define precisely what it looks like, even right now, at this very moment.

We should however, note the following. There are factors that hold back both Washington and Tel Aviv. These are, of course, Syria's considerable defensive might and the fact that an agreement of friendship and cooperation is in force between Syria and the Soviet Union. Finally, we can say in advance that the reaction of the majority of the West European states to an attack on Syria would be negative. Here, let us speak frankly, submitting to Washington's demands, as demonstrated, for example, at the recent meeting of the capitalist Seven in Tokyo, which we have already talked about. This submitting could lead the U.S. NATO allies very far and yield highly dangerous consequences for them. After all, these countries are not at the other end of the world from the Middle East, like the United States is. They are separated from the region only by the Mediterranean. The following chain appears here: Israel is directly linked with the U.S. 6th Fleet, which has been granted mooring rights in Israeli ports, particularly in Haifa. In turn, the 6th Fleet is not simply linked to NATO but serves as the principal strike force of the Atlantic bloc's southern flank. So, the West European NATO countries do have something to ponder and it is not, of course, just a question of geography.

[Andrianov] You are right, Dmitriy Antonovich. The NATO countries do have something to ponder also when we speak of another hot region, this time distant from them: southern Africa.

[Volskiy] Indeed. There, in that region, following in the wake of U.S. policy, they also risk finding themselves in the role of accomplices of repressive forces, which are known to be doomed to failure. You comrades, of course understand that we are talking about the apartheid regime in the Republic of South Africa [RSA]. What is characteristic of the situation presently prevailing in South Africa? It is not just the general rise of the movement against the apartheid, but also the fact that an ever more appreciable role in it is played by the class factor. In particular, the black workers struggle is intensifying. This induces special fear and particular hatred in the reactionary leaders of the white minority. At the same time, the rise in the role of the class factor in the South African situation causes satisfaction, I would say, with the possible prospects of this struggle, among all the friends of the people of the RSA. The growth in the workers movement in the RSA was particularly noted during the recent negotiations between the Soviet leaders and the leader of people's Angola, Dos Santos.

To what else was attention paid at the time? I will quote from the joint USSR-Angolan statement: The racists and imperialists are planning to battle the all free Africa here in the south, to push back the national liberation movement and to launch a counterattack in order to establish neocolonialist mastery on the whole of the African Continent. The arrangement of forces in Africa and the tendencies developing there are such that ultimately, that kind of counterattack has no realistic chance of success. But, it would inevitably strain the situation in southern Africa with all the resulting dangerous international consequences. That is why in their joint statement, the Soviet Union and Angola have called for mobilizing efforts in support of the peoples of southern Africa in order to promote the quickest possible settlement of the problems that have arisen, in the interests of stability and lasting peace.

[Andrianov] The events of international life of which we have spoken today again and again confirm that the nuclear era requires new political thinking and new policies. Of course, it was not incidental that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, speaking on Soviet television this week, noted that the accident in Chernobyl once more illuminated the abyss that would open up if a nuclear war fell on mankind. After all, the accumulated nuclear arsenals conceal within them thousands upon thousands of disasters far more terrifying than the one at Chernobyl. Realizing this, the Soviet people are strengthening their conviction that the foreign policy course worked out by the 27th CPSU Congress is correct and that our country's proposals on completely eliminating nuclear weapons, ceasing nuclear explosions, and creating an all-embracing system of international security meet the implacably strict demands made by the nuclear era upon the political leaderships of all countries. Under conditions where attention to nuclear issues has become greater, the Soviet Government, having weighed all circumstances connected with the security of its own people and all mankind, has decided to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August this year. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has confirmed his proposal to President Reagan to meet without delay in the capital of any European state, or in Hiroshima, and agree on a nuclear test ban. The new manifestation of our country's goodwill has been met with enthusiasm and support in the widest circles of the international community. The USSR's bold initiative begets great hopes, declared David (Cortwright), executive director of the American Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy. We, he emphasized, call on the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress to follow, finally, the Soviet example and stop nuclear tests.

Here we will end our round table meeting. All its participants are grateful to you for your attention, esteemed comrade listeners. Good-bye. All the best to you.

PRAVDA DEPLORES TOKYO FAILURE TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

PM151400 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Doctor of Historical Sciences N. Simoniya article: "Verbiage and Irresponsibility. On the Results of the Tokyo Conference of the 'Seven'"]

[Text] The Western press is commenting loud and long on the altogether rather meager results of the annual conference of heads of state and government from the seven most developed capitalist countries -- the United States, Britain, the FRG, France, Italy, Canada, and Japan. The latest meeting, held in Tokyo, was their 12th.

According to the original plans, the purpose of meetings of the "Seven" is to help settle even the most acute contradictions between the most developed capitalist countries. Virtually from the very beginning, however, the United States captured the initiative and leadership, aiming (and quite successfully, at that) at turning these meetings into a means for imposing its own great-power, hegemonist views on its partners. The Tokyo meeting was no exception in this respect.

It is indicative that now the U.S. Administration is unsparing of enthusiastic words to describe the "success" in achieving unity of views among the top leaders in the capitalist world. However, here is the opinion expressed by THE NEW YORK TIMES. The communique adopted at the meeting, the newspaper notes, "abounds in pledges to achieve coordination in economic policy but does not contain even a hint about the fact that the United States, Japan, and the FRG are already differing on the question of the next step to be taken by each one of these countries." The situation is exactly the same as regards the trade question: "More words than action."

Let us turn to the economic declaration. Having listed the, quite frankly, rather modest successes scored recently by Western countries in bringing down the level of inflation and in the spheres of interest rates, economic growth, and reducing oil prices, the authors of the declaration were unable to conceal the far greater difficulties being encountered by the capitalist world. These are the high level of unemployment, serious imbalances in payments and foreign trade, uncertainty as regards future exchange rates, protectionism, indebtedness of developing countries, and so on.

So, what is being proposed by the leaders of the leading capitalist powers to overcome these real difficulties? In actual fact, they limit themselves to calls for restructuring national economies and integrating into the world economy, and also for coordinating the economic policy of the seven countries. Moreover, Tokyo did not solve a single specific question, not even such a burning question as the reduction of exports of U.S. agricultural produce, which has brought Western Europe and the United States to the brink of a trade war. Another outstanding question concerns the dollar-yen exchange rate, which conceals the acute problem of imbalance in U.S.-Japanese foreign economic relations, and so on and so forth.

This discrepancy between the serious nature of the problems in question and the vagueness of the proposed solutions reflects the profound contradictions, virtually insoluble under the conditions of capitalism, between the tendency toward internationalization of capital, which is a consequence of objective advances in the development of the world's production forces, and the desire of individual states within this system to uphold their own national interests, or rather the interests of national monopolies.

Internationalization of capital and economic integration under capitalism occur under conditions of cutthroat competition and cannot ensure equal benefits for all participants in these processes. "Right" in this situation is on the side of the strong, and it is the strong who gain the most benefits. It is "the right of the strong" that the United States is striving to implement, particularly in the course of conferences of the "Seven."

When the Washington administration calls for free trade and orientation on world demand for agricultural produce, it "forgets" to add that what it is fighting for is not an improvement of the situation in the world economy as a whole, but the interests of U.S. monopolies to the detriment of EEC agricultural producers. Whenever the United States feels under pressure in its own national market, it has no aversion to protectionism. But whenever foreign countries take steps to defend themselves against U.S. export aggression, Washington gives vent to calls for freedom of trade and condemnations of protectionism. The way it is understood by the United States, the thesis about "coordination" of foreign economic activity by the "Seven" means that the remaining participants in the conference should align themselves with U.S. interests.

For the EEC, however, the problem of preserving current markets for agricultural produce and opening new ones -- a problem which was exacerbated when the community was joined by Spain and Portugal -- is not simply a matter of economic advantage. The egoistic U.S. stance threatens the very survival of the community.

One of the trends typical of conferences of the "Seven" concerns their growing "politicization." This would seem to be logical: After all, the present stage in the development of the international situation is exceptionally acute -- mankind has found itself, through the fault of imperialist circles, at a point where its future and the fate of the planet are being decided. In this situation, a desire to give more attention to the political problems of today's world can only be acclaimed. But which international political problems were raised at the latest conference?

The leaders of the "Seven" took it on themselves, in their "Tokyo Declaration," to "map out prospects not only through the end of the 20th century but also beyond." This document, however, contains only the most general of phrases -- about commitment to the cause of perserving and strengthening peace, continuation of the East-West dialogue, and so on. The leaders of the seven countries did not find time even to react to the Soviet Union's latest large-scale peace proposals. Essentially, they pretended that these specific and constructive proposals did not exist.

One is, to say the least, puzzled also by their declaration regarding the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva, which reads: "We highly assess the U.S. efforts (?) and call on the Soviet Union to negotiate positively(!)" Yes, it was no accident that the U.S. weekly NEWSWEEK noted that the United States uses conferences of the "Seven" "not only for the coordination of economic policy but also as an attempt to mobilize allied support for its foreign policy." This line also runs through the two other political declarations adopted in Tokyo. They are the declarations by the "Seven" in connection with the Chernobyl AES [Atomic Power Station] accident and "on international terrorism." The first of these declarations is clearly stamped with the U.S. Administration's desire to exploit any event in the world to exacerbate the international situation and whip up anti-Soviet hysteria. Now some of the participants in the conference would like to distance themselves from such an interpretation of this declaration's significance. But the fact remains that the conference did make its "contribution" to the provocation campaign around Chernobyl.

In the second declaration, the United States aimed for, and to a certain extent obtained, an additional "trump" in its aggressive "game" not only against Libya but also against any other state pursuing a foreign policy course that is "undesirable" for Washington. Nonetheless, even though the umbrella of "unity" was depicted in the United States in vividly bright colors, it did not quite manage to conceal the acute differences and contradictions on some fundamental issues. For example, the U.S. allies were not too keen on being completely identified with the White House's "neoglobalist" policy. The result was that two of the measures which the U.S. President was particularly pursuing -- the imposition of collective economic sanctions against Libya and automatic involvement in U.S. punitive actions -- were not approved owing to the decisive unwillingness by at least some participants in the conference to be harnessed to Washington's policy of state terrorism. The partners like even less the U.S. policy and actions in the trade, economic, currency, and financial spheres. The acute contradictions here, which at times develop into trade wars, were not even dampened. Neither the EEC countries nor Japan intend to yield their positions under U.S. pressure.

Of course, the participants in the Tokyo conference could not have remained totally silent on the problem of their mutual relations with developing countries.

Nevertheless, the developing countries' demands were simply disregarded in Tokyo. Their call for the restructuring of international trade and economic relations on a fair and democratic basis once again went "unheard" by the Western countries.

The Tokyo "Economic Declaration," as if jokingly, recommends that developing countries play a more active role in the world economy, carry out an effective restructuring of their own economies, and above all open their doors wider and create more favorable conditions for the export of foreign capital. As regards the "burning" problem of developing countries' debt, the "Seven" got off with a promise to solve it "on the basis of examining each individual case" under the auspices of the IMF and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. (After all, in this way it is easier to exert pressure and to maneuver to prevent the formation of a united front by the countries enslaved by debts.)

Hardly anyone expected that the leaders of the seven leading capitalist countries at their regular annual conference would solve the problems that have existed among them for decades, let alone the economic and political problems of our time. The solution of these problems is possible only as a result of joint efforts by the entire world community. But the peoples would be justified in expecting from the leaders of the major capitalist states a responsible approach and a constructive response to the questions perturbing the whole world today. Neither the one nor the other emerged from Tokyo.

YURIY DUBININ NAMED AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

LD201609 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has appointed Yuriy Dubinin the USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United States of America.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has relieved Anatoliy Dobrynin on his duties as the USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United States of America in connection with another appointment.

TASS NOTES HOMECOMING OF U.S. NAVY 'MURDERERS'

LD191433 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] New YORK May 19 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Vladislav Orlov.

The rumble of jet engines, thunder of orchestras and enthusiastic cheering of the crowd merged into a noisy cacophony glorying militarism. The U.S. naval base of Oceana, near Virginia Beach, Virginia, became the scene of yet another clamorous chauvinistic show designed to demonstrate "public support" for the White House's aggressive policy.

The pilots of the American planes which took part in the bombing raids on the civilian districts of the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Banghazi returned home.

The authorities did their utmost to turn the home-coming into a major militarist show televised nation-wide. To enhance the propaganda effect, the planes were ordered to take off from the aircraft-carrier Coral Sea when the vessel was hundreds of miles from the U.S. coast and fly to the airbase in diamond formation.

Television cameras followed the approaching planes, their landing and the sentimental embraces of the "bold fighters" by their relatives.

Spluttering with chauvinistic excitement, television and radio commentators praised the might of the American weapons with which Libya was "punished", and interviewed participants in the raid.

The squadron commander, Byron Duffey, bloated with pride describing the performance of his guys who never wavered when directing their death-dealing rockets and bombs at the residential districts of the sleeping city. The pilots based on the aircraft-carriers of the U.S. Navy, he confessed, were constantly training for such missions.

The noisy ceremony in Virginia Beach was reminiscent of the welcome for the American soldiers returning from Vietnam in the not too distant past. They were also welcomed as heroes, but for all honest people on earth, including in the United States, they were none other than murderers.

MOSCOW PAPER VIEWS PROSPECT OF ATTACK ON SYRIA

PM201337 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 May 86 p 9

[LITERATURNAYA GAZETA Political Observer Igor Belyayev article under the rubric "Viewpoint": "Libya: Who Is Next?"]

[Text] People in the Near East and throughout the world are talking about the war against Syria. Experience -- bitter experience, at that -- shows that in recent years such talk has, as a rule, had its sequel. Thus on the eve of the Israeli attack on Lebanon, Israeli politicians and military men were talking openly about a forthcoming invasion. And it began on 6 June 1982.

Who will attack Syria? Some say the United States. Others point to Israel. In my opinion, those who point to Israel are closer to the true state of affairs. The chance of a purely American option for the war against Syria is remote today. Why? The United States has already waged war against Syria once. In December 1983. At that time, carrier-borne aircraft from the American 6th Fleet bombed the Syrian Army units who were in Lebanon, or rather in Al-Biqa' Valley. At that time the United States was rebuffed and suffered losses. After very sound reflection 2 and 1/2 years ago even the most unrestrained "hawks" in the White House and the Pentagon decided that a war against Syria is indeed a great risk. Even on Lebanese territory. The more so since Damascus was prepared for confrontation with the United States...

Let me remind you that in February 1984, U.S. Marines, who had landed in Lebanon in September 1982, fled ignominiously from there, after losing more than 260 men in 18 months. They were fighting for an unjust cause against the people of Lebanon. Neither bombings from the air nor shellings of the mountain from the large-caliber guns of the battleship New Jersey helped. Must it all be repeated?

The bombing of Libya in April 1986, when that country was accused, patently without substantiation, of complicity in "international terrorism," did not, and, indeed, could not yield the desired results. The revolutionary regime in Tripoli was not shaken. On the contrary! Colonel al-Qadhdhafi consolidated his position. In the Arab world, even his opponents sided with Libya. Even they could not tolerate the humiliation to which the Americans had subjected the Arabs...

I am convinced that President Reagan and his closest advisers, among them Secretary of State G. Shultz who seemed to be scoring points from the explosion of chauvinism in the United States, did not remotely imagine that a raid on one Arab country could cost Washington so dearly in the Arab world. That is why it is quite logical to suggest that this time the United States will use Israeli services. Tel Aviv has already begun military preparations.

The confidence that it is Israel that will attack Syria is also based on the feeling that in the situation that has arisen in the Near East, a change of aggressor is now inevitable. Not only because the United States is today not prepared to pay a new price if its Air Force drops bombs on Damascus. There are also purely Israeli factors. First, Israel has nothing to lose from yet another act of aggression against Syria. Israeli-Arab relations are still not good. Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir stated recently that even Egypt, which is linked to Tel Aviv by the Camp David Treaty, has done nothing to develop Egyptian-Israeli relations. Today they are far worse than in March 1979, when that "peace" treaty offering normalization was concluded.

Here is something else striking. In recent weeks the Israeli "superhawk" -- Defense Minister Rabin -- has been a source of threats against Syria. He followed the United States in accusing Damascus of complicity in "international terrorism." True, Israeli Prime Minister Peres at once hastened to state that his minister's remarks were not confirmed. Was this the all clear? No. The point is that a covert war has long been in progress between Rabin and Peres. Rabin intends to oust Peres from his present post, and does not conceal it. Even at the price of playing along with the Likud bloc, which advocates an attack on Syria. The explosion of chauvinism provoked in Israel by this raid will be the political milieu in which the present government of "national unity," that emerged after the latest parliamentary elections which gave victory neither to the Alignment (the bloc headed by the Labor Party) nor to Likud (the extreme right bloc headed by Begin's Herut Party), will collapse. Extraordinary elections to the Knesset will be inevitable. Rabin is confident that Peres will pay for the collapse of the present government. He himself will be the new prime minister.

Wars between Israeli politickers have never been waged by gentlemanly rules. In this situation it appears tempting for President Reagan to support Rabin, through whom he wants to "punish" Syria.

How would another Israeli war look? Rabin will step up the accusations against Damascus. His latest accusation against Syria was made last Sunday. And on some provocative pretext or other, the Israeli Air Force will make a strike. Perhaps against Damascus. Why not against the Syrian units in Al-Biqa' Valley? I am convinced that Israeli generals are now in favor of a strike that would remove the threat of confrontation with the Syrian Army for a long time. The United States also has an interest in such a strike, and openly supports the new Israeli aggression.

That is how they see things in Washington and Tel Aviv. That is what Reagan and Rabin think. But I think that if something of the kind does happen, a perceptible defeat lies in store for the United States above all, and also for Israel.

What about Syria? Damascus shrugs off the accusations against it. And it is stepping up its defense. The consequences of another Israeli act of aggression against Syria are simply unpredictable. After Lebanon, from where Israeli soldiers have also fled, there will be yet another defeat!

PRAVDA CITES U.S. PAPERS ON ANTI-SYRIA 'CAMPAIGN'

PM190931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Preparing Sanctions Against Syria"]

[Text] Washington, 16 May -- As THE BOSTON GLOBE reports, the United States has embarked on secret consultations with Britain, France, and the FRG on the possibility of imposing joint sanctions against Syria. Washington is demanding in particular, the newspaper writes, that the allies ban passenger flights to and from Syria, impose restrictions on movement in European countries and the United States for people traveling on Syrian passports, and adopt other discriminatory measures.

On the false pretext of "combating international terrorism," official Washington recently launched a campaign of open threats against Syria. Thus U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz stated unambiguously that although "for tactical reasons it is not yet expedient to announce the planned measures" with regard to Damascus, "the United States will not stand idle." In the opinion of certain U.S. officials, THE WASHINGTON POST writes, Shultz is preparing the public for future secret operations outside the United States.

RSA CITES U.S. RAID ON LIBYA AS PRECEDENT FOR STRIKES

LD202244 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1215 GMT 20 May 86

["Commentary" By The Washington Method" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- TASS Political Observer Sergey Kulik writes:

Never before have the South African racists, who long ago armed themselves with terrorist methods devised by Washington, acted so brazenly. Previously they would be satisfied with sporadic acts of piracy against individual neighboring countries. Now Pretoria, according to the assessment of THE WASHINGTON POST, "has made a combined bround and air strike against Zambia, undertaking simultaneous diversionary raids against Zimbabwe and Botswana."

Whence this brazenness? Head of the Pretoria regime's Bureau of Information L. Nel declared, without beating around the bush, that South Africa was acting in accordance with the precedent set in the U.S. aggression against Libya and was guided by the same motives as the United States when it mounted its bombing strikes against the sleeping residents of Tripoli and Banghazi.

True, the White House hastened to dissociate itself from these revelations by Pretoria and a statement was even published in Washington denouncing the South African raids.

But who needs Washington's verbiage, which is pronounced only for the United States unsavoury business and policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa and which is what gives the racists their guarantees of impunity? Of what value is the strict, as American propaganda asserts, tone of the White House statements if, to the accompaniment of their blather, the Americans supply Stinger missiles and oppose in every way the adoption of economic sanctions against the RSA? It is possible that as the "chief punishment" against Pretoria, the White House will cancel the planned visit to the RSA by President Reagan's daughter, Maureen. Whe is well known for her conservative views and her sympathy for the apartheid regime and intended to pay a "friendly visit" to South Africa in order, as the South African newspaper DIE BURGER wrote, "to give public opinion in the West a more favorable attitude toward the policy of the whites in the RSA."

On the whole it seems that after Pieter Botha sent a secret letter to the participants in the meeting of the "Big Seven," in which he asked for full political and propaganda cover to be provided for his "new" course, the United States and its allies undertook something like "collective responsibility" for preserving the pillars of apartheid. In the United States itself, there has been increased publicizing of the limited cosmetic reforms with which the racialists hope to save their regime that is now undergoing an unprecedented political and social crisis.

In accordance with the decision of the new government that has a right-wing majority, the French ambassador, who was recalled last year in protest against the introduction of the state of emergency there, has returned to Pretoria. "It must be understood, a commentator of Radio RSA noted, not without justification, that from now on, official Paris is not going to protest against what happens in southern Africa."

London has taken on the unenviable role of defender of the economic interests of the racists. Although, under pressure from a number of countries of the British Commonwealth and, in the first place, from India and the "Frontline" States, M. Thatcher was forced to agree to the holding in the British capital in August, this year of a "mini-summit" to discuss the situation in the RSA, the Tory government has no intention at all of moving over into the camp of the critics of the Pretoria regime.

On the contrary! Even after the bandit raid by the racists on the "Frontline" States, G. Howe, the British foreign secretary made a statement that allowed a commentator of the London GUARDIAN to come to the following conclusion: "M. Thatcher's cabinet is refusing to reconsider its opposition to the application of international reprisals against South Africa."

Continuing to imitate the Washington experience, Pretoria is now making efforts to justify its raids on Harare, Lusaka, and Gaborone as "pursuit of terrorists," However the governments of Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana have decisively rejected these claims in official statements. As Kenneth Kaunda, president of Zambia, stated, "the RSA's actions are a completely unjustified crime."

The United States and other Western powers, practizing and encouraging international terrorism, stand behind this crime.

DAILY DENOUNCES ADELMAN'S REMARKS ON CHERNOBYL

PM201402 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 May 86 First Edition p 5

[Mikhail Ozerov rejoinder: "Exploiting Misfortune"]

[Text] It is common knowledge that different people react differently to other people's grief. Most people respond with sympathy and a desire to help. But some feel the complete opposite -- outright malice.

That is precisely the response of some statesmen on the Potomac. The Chernobyl AES [atomic energy station] accident has caused in them... a surge of joy. Soviet people are heroically combating the disaster, risking their lives, even dying, but across the ocean people are rubbing their hands with glee, saying, that is fine, that serves them right, let us take advantage of this.

Now Kenneth Adelman has spoken in Congress. He holds a high and prestigious post: director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Surely he will speak knowledgeably about what happened.

Fat chance... Mr Adelman began by saying that the Soviet reports on the number of casualties were "not serious." The more he said, the worse it got: The speaker set about painting a series of increasingly gloomy pictures for the assembly. A threat of destruction hangs over Kiev... The graphite will burn for a long time after the accident... And so on and so forth. In general, then, if you believe Adelman, all the information coming from the USSR is "ridiculous." What can we say about this? Reality today demonstrates that it is the figures cited by our country that are correct, not those cited by Mr Adelman. This has just been confirmed by Adelman's fellow-countrymen, Professor R. Gale from California and Dr A. Hammer, the well known U.S. businessman, who helped us in our plight. At a press conference in Moscow, R. Gale said that the preliminary Soviet assessments of the radiation doses and treatment strategies were as far as possible ABSOLUTELY CORRECT [preceeding words published in boldface]. And the IAEA document notes that the "level of radioactivity in the Kiev reservoirs was normal all the time." Why did Adelman need to confuse the issue? For the same reason as a number of other high-ranking members of the U.S. Administration. Yes, the U.S. Administration was united on this question with the most right-wing publications across the ocean. As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said on 14 May, "official Washington's conduct during these difficult days is deeply disappointing: It represents a disgraceful exploitation of misfortune, shameless attempts to use what has happened to discredit all the Soviet Union's policy, and to instill mistrust in its peace-loving initiatives." What we are seeing is flagrant cynicism and a desire to extract the maximum political capital from the disaster by presenting the tragedy in Chernobyl as an inevitable link in the chain of the "erroneous policy" of the USSR, with whom, they say, they should have no dealings.

What else can such a stance cause except indignation? Press organs and state and social figures from the most diverse countries are now resolutely condemning the campaign launched by Washington. "The atmosphere of fear and even hysteria that has been constantly fueled recently is utterly unacceptable," S. Khayselbert, member of the Danish parliament, stated, for example. Ordinary Americans are also incensed at their authorities' stand. This is demonstrated, for example, by their letters and telegrams that are arriving in Moscow. In general, as life itself shows, it is not the Soviet information on the Chernobyl accident that is absurd and ridiculous but the position taken by high-ranking Americans.

U.S. EXPERTS WARN OF RADIATION LEAKAGE THREAT

LD201040 Moscow TASS in English 1021 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Washington May 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Orekhov reports:

For fourteen years now, the U.S. Government has concealed the fact that 39 nuclear power plants in the USA were built according to a project that does not ensure protection from radiation leakage in the even of even insignificant breakdowns, a press conference in Washington was told by Robert Pollard, and Daniel Ford, two leading experts in the field of nuclear power engineering.

All those nuclear power plants were built according to a project of the "General Electric" company, which, as the scientists said, convinced the U.S. Administration not to publish critical remarks against the company. Meanwhile, way back in 1972, Steven Hanauer, senior adviser of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, recommended in his secret memorandum that the "General Electric" should not be allowed to build nuclear power plants with obviously ineffective protection.

After the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, senior officials of the U.S. nuclear industry tried to claim that such an accident was impossible at U.S. nuclear power plants. Ford described those statements as false. Ford said that none of the American nuclear power plants had a magic protection system, which could cope with a major accident. Moreover, the containment structure at almost 40 percent of U.S. nuclear power plants may be destroyed and thus a radiation leakage may occur even in the event of a comparatively insignificant failure. The United States has its own enormous problem of ensuring security in the nuclear field, the American scientist said.

DARTMOUTH CONFERENCE IN AZERBIAJAN CLOSES

LD172123 Moscow TASS in English 1944 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Baku May 17 TASS -- The 15th Dartmouth Soviet and American meeting came to a close in the capital of Soviet Azerbaijan today. Its American co-President, prominent public figure David Matthews, said in an interview with a TASS correspondent, "during the conference, we sought to find ways for attaining better understanding between our countries, find approaches to the situations where our positions are different. The destinies of our countries determine to a large extent the destiny of the world." Soviet co-president, Academician Georgiy Arbatov, who heads the Institute for U.S. and Canada Studies at the Soviet Academy of Sceinces, said that despite different views on various issues, the two sides had practically no differences on the most important thing -- that it was necessary to find new approaches to questions of international security, termination of the arms race and normalization of Soviet-American relations.

U.S. MICRONESIAN POLICY OF 'NEOGLOBALISM' HIT

PM191241 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May 86 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Kondrashov article: "Behind the Screen of Trusteeship. The United States Has Set Its Sights on Finally Annexing Micronesia" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The situation in Micronesia is on the agenda of the UN Trusteeship Council session in New York. Washington, which is pursuing an overtly neocolonial policy regarding the last UN Trust Territory, is coming under a hail of criticism.

The gigantic arc of the three archipelagoes that make up Micronesia lies on the equator in the western Pacific. The luxuriant tops of the stately palms sway gently in the light breeze, the ocean breakers wrap the coastline of the innumerable islands in a white ribbon. Blue sky, blue sea, and the eternal tropical sun overhead...

An idyllic picture, as they say. But it hides the islanders' hard life full of privations. Until the end of the 19th century, the Marianas, Carolines, and Marshall Islands belonged to Spain; they were then handed over to Germany. In 1914, they were seized by Japan. During World War II, all three archipelagoes were occupied by the United States.

In 1947, the UN Trust Territory of Micronesia, still occupied by U.S. troops, was transferred to the U.S. Administration. The main task that the international community set the administrative power was to prepare the island population -- currently 135,000 people -- for independence.

Almost 40 years have passed since then. It can now be said with complete justification that the United States has blatantly abused the UN mandate. It has betrayed the organization's trust by embarking from the very first days on implementing the very worst kind of neocolonialist policy in Micronesia. Washington has gambled not only on ultimately annexing the UN Trust Territory but on turning it into its military springboard.

In order to ease the achievement of this ignoble goal, Washington has taken action which is a direct crime against the Micronesian people. The United States has divided it into four separate territories. Initially it put massive pressure on the Marshall Islands and imposed on them the status of "free association" with the United States. Then the same status was "given" to the Federated States of Micronesia, that is, the northern part of the Carolines and Palau Islands. The northern Mariana Islands were "honored" with entering into a "commonwealth" with the United States.

This entire political farce has been played out to neocolonialist laws. These "Pacific Bantustans" as it were, were given the semblance of certain state institutions, with various "plebiscites" and "referendums" being staged for the expression of the population's "free will." This did not always go smoothly. The Washington neocolonialists had trouble with the Palau Islands, which only produced Washington's required results in the sixth attempt.

As for the essence of the agreements themselves, as Roger Clark, professor of international law at Miami University, aptly put it, they are a "fraudulent process of decolonization" and a "modern form of slavery." These documents, Susan Kuass, representative at the United Nations of the U.S. public organization "Pacific Resource," admits in her turn, undermine the UN agreement on trusteeship through colonial-type treaties and are leading to the expansion of control over Micronesia and to the essentially open-ended use of its territory by the Pentagon.

Observers, commenting on the process of partitioning Micronesia and imposing on its component parts shackling agreements with the United States, also emphasize that Washington is trying to resolve the question of the future of the islands' population by bypassing UN Charter provisions, the Trusteeship Agreement, and, finally, the UN declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples. And the agreements themselves are drawn up in such a way that the United Nations has been deprived of the opportunity of even being involved with safeguarding the interests of the Micronesian people.

The United States has had "trusteeship" of Micronesia for almost 40 years. And this has had the most negative impact on the islanders' lives. The press reports the islands' extremely low rate of economic development, the totally unsuitable standards of health care, and the fact that children do not get a proper education. The road network on the islands is undeveloped and they lack hospitals, schools, and industrial enterprises. The most acute problem is unemployment, particularly among young people.

Clearly, the administrative power has neither the time nor the money to solve these questions. On the other hand, Washington does not stint on money for turning Micronesia into a strategic Pentagon stronghold. It is apposite to recall that back in August 1945, U.S. bombers took off from Micronesian territory bound for Hiroshima and Nagasaki with their atom bombs on board. With Micronesia under its administration, the United States thought that it had a free hand. Mushroom clouds appeared over the territory itself -- the Pentagon chose Bikini and Eniwetok Atolls for nuclear weapon tests. How many islanders did they condemn to death or agonizing diseases! Micronesia remains a U.S. test site even today. The "most important of all U.S. missile test ranges" is located on Kwajalein Atoll, UPI points out. There, thousands of miles from U.S. shores, MX and Minuteman missiles launched from Vandenberg base in California fly overhead. The "free association" agreement imposed on the Marshall Islands envisages the utilization of Kwajalein as a test site for at least another 30 years. It is to play a considerable role in preparations for the notorious "star wars." And the Pentagon's appetites are growing. On Palau Islands the United States is planning to create a major military base for a Pacific strike group comprising 140 warships and 1,125 aircraft. Other parts of Micronesia are also being actively militarized. That is what U.S.-style trusteeship looks like; those are the fruits of the "free association" imposed by Washington! It is necessary to add that the militarization of Micronesia poses a danger not only to the population of the territory. Its transformation into a military-strategic springboard is a threat to all peoples inhabiting the Pacific Basin. These U.S. actions run fundamentally counter to the increasingly popular slogan about turning the Pacific into a nuclear-free zone.

...There is a lively correspondence going on between the White House and Congress on the future of Micronesia, or rather, the parts into which it has arbitrarily been divided. But it is not for Washington to decide the future of the UN Trust Territory. Under the UN Charter any change in its status can only take place at the decision of the UN Security Council. The clumsy attempts to turn Micronesia into a neocolonial. U.S. appendage only emphasize the need to maintain UN trusteeship over these Pacific islands.

The reports of the UN Trusteeship Council special missions to Micronesia, which go there from time to time in order to familiarize themselves with U.S. "achievements" on the spot, so to speak, should also be approached with great caution. One is particularly struck by the fact that, while noting the numerous deficiencies in the administration and the considerable lags in the islands' economy, the experts (who, incidentally, are representatives of Western countries) nonetheless support Washington's plans and actions with regard to Micronesia, which at the very least can be said to contravene the UN Charter.

The declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples is one of the most important documents adopted by the United Nations.

It has played a considerable role in the emergence on the world scene of dozens of independent states. The declartion has not lost its topicality now nor will it do so until all people become independent. It applies directly to the Micronesian people too, who must determine their own future for themselves, including the forms of cooperation with other states, freely and without outside interference. They can only do that after obtaining complete independence. The United Nations' duty is to do everything it can to implement the Micronesian people's inalienable right to free and independent [samostoyatelnyy] development.

POINDEXTER URGES SUPPORT OF U.S. NEOGLOBALISM

LD171236 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0908 GMT 17 May 86

[Aleksandr Shalnev report]

[Text] Washington, 17 May (TASS) -- U.S. allies and friends should give unconditional support to Washington in the implementation of the notorious doctrine of neoglobalism. That is the meaning the U.S. Administration is giving to the concept of "collective security." An elucidation of this was provided in the lengthy speech delivered in Indianapolis, Indiana, by G. Poindexter, the U.S. President's national security adviser.

The fact that this speech was delivered literally just a few days after the Tokyo conference of leaders of states and governments of the capitalist "seven" is most noteworthy. As is known, Washington declared the conference "a total success" for U.S. diplomacy, referring in particular to the fact that the allies, it said, supported the United States on questions of "the struggle against international terrorism," which is one of the key elements in the doctrine of neoglobalism. However, G. Poindexter has now been forced to admit directly to the existence of "latent, continuing differences" on this subject and to say that for the administration it was "difficult to understand the attitude of many countries to the problem of international terrorism."

G. Poindexter summed up the administration's approach to this problem quite clearly, saying in effect that the bandit actions similar to the one that was undertaken against sovereign Libya recently are considered by Washington not only as the main instrument "of the fight against terrorism" but also, as he put it, a support for the principle of collective security. G. Poindexter called on the allies for joint actions of this sort. It is characteristic that his speech contained thinly veiled threats to the effect that those allies and friends which refused unconditional support for the United States could expect retribution from Washington: Poindexter hinted that the administration would display "growing indifference to the interests" of the guilty ones. The presidential adviser did not spell out what he meant, but the very fact that the question was posed in such a way is extremely signficant.

G. Poindexter's speech confirmed once again that the administration is prepared to expand its support for terrorist bandit formations such as the anti-Nicaraguan contras and also for repressive regimes such as South African; he also attempted to justify such a policy by referring to "concern for regional stability in the world." The presidential adviser left no doubt that, in spite of all of its eloquent assurances, the Washington administration is still not prepared to bring about a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan. From his statements it can be clearly seen that the United States will continue to give massive military aid to Pakistan, whose territory has been virtually turned into a base for terrorist gangs making bloody raids into Afghanistan.

PRAVDA REPORTS NAJIBULLAH SPEECH TO KABUL COMMITTEE

PM161404 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Consolidating the Revolution. Comrade Najib's Speech at Kabul City Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Kabul, 15 May -- Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, addressed a plenum of the Kabul PDPA City Committee held here.

Today, he declared, it can be confidently said that the revolutionary process in the country is developing in the right direction. Struggle to expand and strengthen the social base of people's power, termination of the bloodshed, establishment of peace and tranquility in Afghanistan's ancient land, and readiness for fruitful cooperation with all patriots and democrats in our motherland -- these are the main tasks and program directives which it is necessary to fulfill, Najib said. He reaffirmed that Afghanistan advocates a peaceful political settlement of the situation around the DRA.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee highly assessed the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the DRA and expressed profound gratitude to the CPSU and the entire Soviet people for their enormous and selfless assistance.

The complexity of the problems facing us makes it necessary to strengthen the collective nature of the leadership of supreme organs, Najib went on. Spheres of work must be divided so that the Revolutionary Council under B. Karmal's leadership provides leadership of the activity of the new organs of state power and management and ensures their strengthening by attracting the best representatives of national patriotic forces, while the Council of Ministers under S.A. Keshtmand's leadership deals with improving the work of ministries and departments with a view to implementing the party's economic policy. As far as the party and party work are concerned, the strengthening and expansion of the PDPA demand the closest of attention. Ours is a ruling party, and it must ensure unity between the actions and fundamental principles of work by all components of the sociopolitical system.

Today we have at our disposal the mighty theoretical weapon of assertive development, Najib said. The party will continue to elaborate thoroughly and comprehensively the theoretical questions of the April Revolution. We will firmly condemn any unjustified rushing ahead or downright leftism, as well as any opportunism or unwillingness to act decisively, in a revolutionary fashion, and in keeping with the situation.

An analysis of recent activity shows that a lack of energetic actions is indeed our main misfortune. While having a profoundly thought-out and comprehensively considered strategy, we appear to be poor practitioners. Many wonderful ideas and plans drown in words and remain just on paper. The practical aspects of work lag behind our own recommendations. Here we have a divergence between words and deeds which generates phenomena of stagnation where they must not occur -- in the front line of the development of the revolutionary process.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary called for stepped-up monitoring of the execution of decisions, criticism and self-criticism, and the level of exactingness and responsibility, and for the resolute elimination of the negative phenomena of clannishness, nepotism, and family or tribal remnants of the past. The party has one law for everyone. Our objective is an uncompromising struggle for honesty and purity. It is necessary to eradicate the fear of shouldering responsibility and to ensure total dedication to the cause of the party, the revolution, and the people. It is necessary to criticize shortcomings. Criticism and self-criticism must be as necessary for us as the air that we breathe, he emphasized.

Afghan society's new political system offers all the opportunities to rally people, Najib went on to say. This applies primarily to the National Patriotic Front, which was founded for this very purpose. The correct implementation of nationalities policy must not be forgotten in the struggle for unity. An important role is played here by education, newspapers and radio programs in native languages, development of the economy and culture, consideration of customs in the distribution of land and water resources, state support for traditional tribal self-government, and protection of the honor, dignity, and property of every family in a tribe's area. We will cut short any attempts to sow dissension among different tribes or to break ties between tribes on both sides of the border.

The Politburo believes that the city of Kabul and its party organization must set an example in resolving all the issues in question. Much has been done in the capital in the last few months. At the same time, the restructuring of party political work is progressing intolerably slowly, and so far there has been no success in exerting ideological influence on certain strata of the population.

Touching upon questions concerning security in the outskirts of Kabul and in Kabul Province, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee declared that all the necessary forces to ensure such security are available. It is only necessary to utilize them correctly.

He pointed out that the PDPA and the state are doing much to ensure that young people can carry on with their studies. About 100,000 persons are studying in the city's higher education establishments, technical colleges, and schools, and also in the adult education classes at lyceums and colleges. Nevertheless, Najib declared, we party members cannot avoid being alarmed by many of the phenomena and processes occurring among young people. The city and district party committees and the appropriate ministries are obviously slack in the work with lecturers and teachers in lyceums and colleges and with the young people themselves.

It is also necessary to examine carefully the problems and needs of artisans, merchants, storekeepers, and cooperative trade workers and to channel their efforts toward supplying Kabul's population with basic products and commodities at prices that the absolute majority of the population can afford.

The capital has always been considered a forge for party cadres. People come here from all provinces in search of the party's word and experience. The Politburo is convinced that the Kabul organization will continue to play a leading role in ensuring the unity of party ranks, Najib said in conclusion.

DRA LEADER MEETS WITH ARMY UNITS, ORGANIZATIONS

Addresses Army Conference

LD201202 Moscow TASS in English 1108 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Kabul May 20 TASS -- The second All-Army Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations completed its work here. It discussed measures called upon to bring about a radical improvement in the party and political work in the Army of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (D.R.A.).

Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), addressed the conference.

He said that the main task was to secure an early end to bloodshed, skillfully combining all forms of struggle against the enemy -- military, economic and political.

After the first All-Army Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organization in 1983 the party ranks in the Army have grown notably. One out of every four servicemen is a party member. The Army has a streamlined system for ideological education of the personnel.

A well-organized counter-propaganda effort to counter ideological sabotage and subversive actions of the enemy should be one of the most important elements in the work of the party organizations, Najib said.

The Day of the Armed Forces -- the holiday of the Army of the D.R.A. observed August 19 -- should play an important role in educating people in the spirit of patriotism and in fostering respect and love for the Armed Forces. Precisely on that day, Najib said, our fathers and grandfathers with arms in hands secured Afghanistan's independence in the battle against British colonialists.

Today, too, the glorious Armed Forces of the D.R.A. are defending our sovereignty, territorial integrity, our freedom and independence, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee emphasized.

Meets With Border Troops

PM201426 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "The Base of the Revolution Is Broadening"]

[Text] Kabul, 18 May -- As the BAKHTAR agency reports, Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, has visited a border troops study center in Kabul. Addressing officers and men, he stated that despite the undeclared war launched against the Republic by the forces of imperialism and reaction, Democratic Afghanistan is successfully carrying out economic building and continuing the process of expanding the social base of the revolution.

The DRA's border troops, Najib pointed out, make a great contribution to the cause of protecting the state border against infiltration by counterrevolutionary gangs sent in from abroad. In fulfilling this important task they must closely coordinate their actions with the tribes inhabiting the border regions.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary noted the great importance of further consolidating Afghan-Soviet friendship. For many decades now, he said, the Soviet people have always helped the fraternal Afghan people in their time of difficulty. Today, too, the USSR is giving Afghanistan invaluable assistance. We will never forget this.

Visits Air Unit

PM191516 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 May 86 Second Edition p 1

[Correspondent Major A. Oliynik report: "Visit to Unit"]

[Text] On 17 May, Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, visited the "N" [not further identified] air unit of the DRA Armed Forces and an aviation equipment repair plant.

He familiarized himself with the pilots' life, combat training, and routine, viewed combat hardware, and was present for show flights by aircraft and helicopters.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary evaluated highly the Afghan servicemen's friendship and combat cooperation with Soviet military pilots and expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet servicemen and to the entire Soviet people for their tremendous selfless assistance.

Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, was accompanied to the air unit by Lieutenant General N. Muhammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA minister of defense, by Lieutenant General Muhammad Yasin Saddiqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chief of the Afghan Army Main Political Directorate, and by other DRA party and state figures.

KABUL APPROVES USSR-DRA COOPERATION MEASURES

PM201410 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Broad Program"]

[Text] Kabul, 19 May -- The DRA Council of Ministers has approved joint measures to implement the 27 August 1985 agreement on questions of economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Afghanistan. The document envisages expanding work in the sphere of gas field exploration in the north of the DRA, renewing equipment, and constructing a gas pipeline, powerline, power stations, and highways.

Decisions have been made to speed up the construction of social and consumer facilities in the cities of Mazar-e Sharif and Sheberghan as part of the fulfillment of the broad plan. Special attention will be paid to training national technical cadres. The implementation of the program, BAKHTAR stresses, will constitute an important step in strengthening the DRA national economy, raising the Afghan people's living standards, and further developing USSR-DRA cooperation.

ARKHIPOV ATTENDS ECONOMIC TALKS IN SFRY

PM191334 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS dispatch: "Soviet-Yugoslav Cooperation"]

[Text] Belgrade, 15 May -- The latest session of the Soviet-Yugoslav Intergovernmental Committee on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation ended here today. The delegations were headed by Committee Co-chairman I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and B. Srebric, vice president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council.

The session examined the state and prospects of Soviet-Yugoslav economic, scientific, and technical relations and progress in the implementation of reciprocal trade commitments in 1986.

The participants rated highly the successful development of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and SFRY, which totaled R35 billion in 1981-1985. The positive results of cooperation in the construction and reconstruction of industrial and other projects on the territories of both countires were noted, and the steps taken to initiate production sharing and specialization in the sphere of machine building were approved.

During the discussion of questions of trade and economic cooperation in the current 5-year plan particular attention was drawn to the need to develop new, progressive forms of cooperation between Soviet and Yugoslav organizations.

The protocol signed on the results of the committee's session points out that direct production ties between economic organizations of the USSR and the SFRY and the development of production sharing and specialization are the most important avenues of cooperation in the current 5-year plan.

Noting the successful development of Soviet-Yugoslav scientific and technical relations, the participants backed the view that it is necessary jointly to resolve economic tasks in priority spheres conducive to the acceleration of scientific and technical progress in the USSR and the SFRY.

During a meeting between I.V. Arkhipov and the president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council [no name given] held while the committee was in session, mutual interest was confirmed in the further development and deepening of all-around cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

KAPITONOV RECEIVES SED COUNTERPART

PM191407 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] I.V. Kapitonov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, received K. Seibt, chairman of the SED Central Auditing Commission, on 16 May.

During the talk, which took place in a cordial, friendly atmosphere, there was an exchange of experience of work to further improve the activity of auditing commissions in light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 11th SED Congress.

IZVESTIYA INTERVIEWS CSSR PREMIER ON ECONOMIC TASKS

PM141501 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the CSSR Government, by unnamed correspondent under the headline "Loyalty to Great Ideals" -- in Prague, date not given -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] For the 41st time the working people of fraternal Czechoslovakia mark their biggest national holiday -- the day of their country's liberation from the fascist invaders. Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the CSSR Government, answers IZVESTIYA's questions about his country's present and its heroic past.

[Interviewer] Accelerating Czechoslovakia's socioeconomic development by intensifying production and increasing social production efficiency is the long-term strategy adopted by the 17th CPCZ Congress. What immediate problems have arisen because of this, and how are they being solved?

[Strougal] Scientific and technical progress and the modernization, reconstruction, and retooling of fixed machine building capital must play a decisive role in the implementation of our plans to accelerate society's socioeconomic development. Investment policy serves these aims. We can only invest means in such a way that they rapidly yield a profit. Instead of building new production plants, primary attention will be devoted to more fully utilizing and modernizing units already in operation. Our efforts are aimed at achieving a principled turn toward increasing the efficiency of all production factors, rapidly reducing the materials and energy intensiveness of production, and ensuring more substantial growth in labor productivity. This must be accompanied by the proposed changes in the structure of the Czechoslovak national economy and, it follows, also by our economy's more extensive and active participation in the international economy, primarily in the socialist division of labor. Also, specialization will cover not only production but also scientific research activity.

[Interviewer] The need to radically reform economic management was also determined by the 27th CPSU Congress. What, in your opinion, do the formulation and solution of these problems have in common?

[Strougal] The main demands to restructure the economic mechanisms in the USSR and the CSSR are basically similar. The aim is to accelerate the process of intensification, that is, to sharply improve work efficiency and quality. This is possible only with clear-cut activity by planning organs, smooth running economic levers, and a well thought-out management structure.

Within the framework of these requirements, I would like to draw particular attention to the need to be more consistent in applying the principle of democratic centralism. We are interested in seeing the central management's efficiency increase, state and plan discipline grow stronger, and effective control increase. Increased central authority to resolve key economic issues must naturally be accompanied by greater independence, power, and responsibility for production units.

We will consistently orient ourselves toward increasing financial autonomy, based on the 5-year plan targets and the use of economic norms. We are convinced that it is essential to create conditions that lead to the development of socialist enterprise.

Every collective in industry, agriculture, and other economic spheres must have an interest in achieving a higher level of economy and in improving production efficiency. For this we primarily require a rational system of prices and a simple system, intelligible to all, for interest and the material responsibility and interrelations between supplier and consumer. The specific aims of this management restructuring are contained in the Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the CSSR for 1986-1990 and the Period Through 2000, which were approved by the 17th CPCZ Congress.

I should also touch on another question -- that of rapidly introducing into production the achievements of scientific and technical progress. I believe that precisely the rate at which this process and science's contribution is applied to the national income's formation must be the criteria for evaluating the quality of management. In the 8th 5-Year Plan we intend to implement a series of planning, organizational, and economic measures based on greater differentiation of material remuneration, stricter evaluation of technical and economic parameters and the quality of manufactured products, and changes in capital construction management.

We are faced with very complex problems, and a number of questions remain. It is important that we can draw on a great deal of the CPSU's experience. Consequently we are closely following everything being undertaken in this extremely important sector in the Soviet Union.

[Interviewer] A decisive condition of Czechoslovakia's present-day economic development, as stressed by the 17th CPCZ Congress, is deepening cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community. In which areas, in your opinion, is it particularly necessary to improve our cooperation, and what should be done to increase the discipline of exchange and to improve the entire system of cooperation?

[Strougal] Further improvement in the integration mechanism is an extremely important problem and an essential condition of successfully implementing our joint economic strategy. The decisions made at the CEMA economic summit meeting and in the Integrated Program for Scientific and Technical Progress in the CEMA Countries Through 2000 show that the center of gravity of our cooperation is shifting to the production and technical sphere. Naturally, this makes new demands on the integrated, long-term nature of cooperation. It presupposes an intersector approach to problems and necessitates even more effective, large-scale involvement of economic organizations in the processes of production specialization and cooperation.

In his speech at the 11th SED Congress, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev correctly noted that the potential for collaboration between the CEMA countries is still not fully utilized. It is precisely for this reason -- and of this we share the same opinion -- that changes in the organization, forms, and mechanism of cooperation itself are urgent. It is essential to enhance CEMA's role in the development of concepts and directions of cooperation and to achieve even greater flexibility and activeness in the work of its individual organs to speed up implementation of adopted programs and bring them to the production cooperation and specialization stages.

First of all we must strengthen cooperation in planning by switching to continuous coordination of 5-year and long-term plans, and also by employing joint planning. At the same time, we must improve coordination of all economic policy -- from scientific and technical cooperation to capital investments.

An urgent problem is how to decisively bring national economic structures closer together while simultaneously raising their qualitative level. This must be achieved primarily in those spheres which most influence our economic organizations to participate in the integration process. In other words, our national management systems must develop by taking integration into consideration, that is, ensuring more openness in relations between partners within the CEMA framework. These demands have cardinal significance particularly for the development of direct ties. Specifically, it is a question of developing joint approaches on principled questions.

It is also essential to take measures so that differences on legal, organizational, and economic questions in each individual country do not impede the development of cooperation or the formation of joint enterprises and associations. The CSSR Government has already approved general rules designed to simplify the mechanism for arranging bilateral relations and to contribute to broadening possibilities for establishing direct links between Czechoslovak organizations and their partners in CEMA countries.

[Interviewer] We have addressed you on the eve of Victory Day. In Spring 1945 you were still quite a young man. What do you remember most about that time, and what were your dreams then?

[Strougal] The people's historical memory is capable of reproducing the events around our motherland's liberation by the Soviet Army. However, the memory of a participant in those events has a considerable advantage: It, his memory, is capable at any moment of making him relive the past, of calling up in his heart and thoughts exactly the same feelings and moods which took possession of him then, many years ago.

Consequently, I feel a leap inside every time I remember the moment of my first firm embrace with a Soviet Army soldier -- a soldier and liberator. Believe me, it was a wonderful moment; those were exciting days. None of us was ashamed of tears. We knew that we had the Soviet Army to thank for saving our lives.

It is hard, it is simply impossible to forget this. True, the great joy of those days was clouded by the recollection of my father's death. He was a Communist with prewar service. He was arrested at the beginning of our country's Hitlerite occupation and died in Berlin's Ploetzensee jail 3 months before the war ended.

What can I say of my dreams then? They were simple: to be alongside those who were struggling for a new Czechoslovakia, for the worker to become real master in his own home. I also wanted to study.

My dreams came true. I am quite right to say that I was not alone in this. Millions had the same dreams.

To a considerable extent our socialist society's present maturity is the embodiment of our Communist Party's ideals. Evaluating our success, we do not forget for a moment that our achievements were won thanks to the fact that we have always felt beside us the shoulder of our most loyal friend and ally -- the great Soviet people.

Allow me on the occasion of Victory Day to address your readers and wish them, from the bottom of my heart, success in thier work and in their fulfillment of the 27th CPSU Congress' strategic decisions.

CPCZ' KEMPNY OUTLINES POST-CONGRESS GOALS

PM191120 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[Article by Josef Kempny, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and chairman of the Czech National Council: "The Components of Acceleration"]

[Text] May is a special month for the Czechoslovak people. It always reminds us of the spring air full of freedom and hope that we breathed in May 1945. Czechoslovakia's future is linked forever with the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

And, indeed, it was in May that the CPCZ was founded, exactly 65 years ago.

As we mark this notable anniversary, we become increasingly aware of the CPCZ crucial role in our country's history. We remember the indefatigable pioneering work of the party's founders -- B. Smeral, A. Zapotocky, and K. Kreibich -- and other comrades. We remember the CPCZ battles on behalf of working people's rights, and its struggle against fascism and for the National Front. Our party's activity is intertwined with the whole struggle for a new people's republic and with the working people's victory over reaction in February 1948. The memorable Ninth CPCZ Congress in 1949 mapped out the line and foundation of building socialism.

Of course, there have not only been victories. We are still learning lessons from the crisis phenomena of 1968 and 1969, which were overcome thanks to the fraternal help of the socialist countries and the principled Marxist-Leninist policy of our party's leadership.

I should like to recall an idea expressed by K. Gottwald, that true disciple of V.I. Lenin: "With the Soviet Union forever, never otherwise!" It has received new confirmation today. The inspiring influence of the 27th CPSU Congress has had an enormous effect on the preparations for and decisions of the 17th CPCZ Congress.

The congress was an important landmark in our life. In preparing for its supreme forum, the party analyzed in depth the country's development in the 15 years, since the historic 14th CPCZ Congress, which outlined the general line of building a developed socialist society. At its last congress, the CPCZ laid down the Basic Guidelines for the Country's Development Through 1990 and the End of the 20th Century.

The main result was the adoption of a strategy of acceleration. It is an immense but realistic program. It links the growth of people's living standards and conditions with the extensive modernization and enhancement of Czechoslovakia's economic might.

In outlining this program, the congress proceeded from the overall positive results achieved by the party and society in building a developed socialist society. Continuity of party policy is not simply a question of its continuation. Preparations for the congress and the congress' work itself graphically showed that our policy is, in a literal sense, a struggle for new thinking, for innovation, for new, considerably more difficult goals, and for new forms and methods of work.

This approach guarantees no one, of course, a carefree life. On the contrary, it makes greater demands on every Communist. But people link their aspirations with this attractive socioeconomic policy and find confidence and support in it.

The main thing that was an exceptional influence on the preparation and work of our congress was its conclusion that we need to substantially enhance the rate and quality of economic growth.

Our 8th 5-Year Plan and plans through the year 2000 are based on that. A minimum annual increase of 3.5 percent in national income has been set for the current 5-year plan. We propose to raise it to 4 percent in the 9th 5-Year Plan.

We must substantially modernize the production base, significantly improve its utilization, and strengthen crucial production links, going so far as to generally reorganize the production structure.

Our new tasks quite clearly indicate that we cannot simply go on working as we have so far been accustomed. An urgent need for a radical change in our way of thinking and of the methods, forms, and style of our work are now the order of the day.

In short, we are talking about the human factor. Our progress depends on people's levels of education, culture, and professionalism, and particularly on their levels of consciousness, activeness, and initiative. We see the strategy of acceleration in its dialectical unity as the living activity of all components of society, from CPCZ leading bodies to each citizen.

The important problems facing us demand that we immediately and decisively match action to words, as G. Husak, the CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, has frequently stressed of late.

Now we consider the fulfillment of the 1986 state plan by the national economy to be our primary task. However, we are far from satisfied with the first 4 months' results. It is clear that the importance of the first year of the 8th 5-Year Plan has not been universally appreciated. It is also necessary to make greater and more stringent demands on leading economic workers in many enterprises. A number of them maintain the old style of working. We cannot allow this. The precise fulfillment of targets, substantial strengthening of discipline and order, and full utilization of reserves are today's task.

Increasing stress is being placed on revolutionary measures. First, there is the acceleration of scientific and technical development on the basis of international socialist integration. The foundation for this is the Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technical Progress for CEMA Countries Through the Year 2000 and the program of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the USSR for the same period. In moving forward with the Soviet Union we are able, thanks to the great potential of the Soviet Union's science, technology, and economy, to overcome the confines of our own limited potential.

It is not, of course, only a question of technology for technology's sake but of the economic and social return it yields. In our society technological progress cannot become a threat to working people, as happens under capitalism. On the contrary, these great and virtually inexhaustible technical transformations benefit working people. This problem must be solved by planning bodies, scientific and technical organizations, and educational institutions. The unity of scientific, technical, economic, and social policy is an indispensable precondition for building the higher levels of our society.

As the socialist mode of production develops and intensifies, socialist democracy becomes exceptionally significant. Since we have resolved to do our utmost to speed up the economy, we are faced with the same task of more rapidly developing socialist democracy. Developing it in the spirit of Leninist principles is an integral part of the decisions made by the 17th CPCZ Congress.

The first great opportunity for this is the May elections to representative bodies at all levels. The program the CPCZ is bringing to the elections is now the program of the entire Czechoslovak National Front.

The problems we face demand selfless work. And for that a calm international situation is essential. Since the Geneva summit, people in all countries have breathed more easily. True to the "spirit of Geneva," the Soviet Union is making enormous and constant efforts to preserve peace.

The world has turned its attention to the Soviet peace initiatives. That is our policy also. We fully support the Soviet Union and adopt the same clear stance expressed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev from the 27th CPSU Congress' rostrum: "Socialism unconditionally repudiates war as a means of resolving political and economic differences between states and ideological disputes. Our ideal is a world devoid of weapons and violence, a world in which every people freely choose their path of development and their own way of life." Armed with a clear program and honest intentions, Czechoslovakia's Communists look to the future with confidence.

BULGARIAN AGRARIAN CONGRESS GREETED

LD181912 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has sent greetings to the delegates of the 35th Congress of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union. In the USSR, the message says, people know your union to be a group with great democratic, progressive traditions, and as a true comrade-in-arms of the Bulgarian Communist Party in the struggle against fascism and capitalism, for the transformation of your country on the principles of socialism, and for putting into practice a program for building a developed socialist society. The CPSU Central Committee wished the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union Congress successful work.

MATERIALS ON GORBACHEV GDR VISIT PUBLISHED

PM161041 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "USSR-GDR: Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] A brochure entitled "USSR-GDR: Friendship and Cooperation" has been published. It contains documents and materials on the participation in the work of the 11th SED Congress in Berlin (16-22 April 1986) of the CPSU delegation, headed by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary.

The brochure includes M.S. Gorbachev's congress speech, materials on his conversations with E. Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary, and other GDR leaders, as well as M.S. Gorbachev's meetings with the Republic's working people.

The brochure is published by the Political Literature publishing house.

REPORTAGE ON SPANISH PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Ryzhkov, Gonzalez Begin Talks

LD191915 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Talks began today between Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov and Felipe Gonzalez.

During the talks, the sides noted with satisfaction that the USSR and Spain have contact points on a number of important aspects on international life. This creates the possibility for expanding the spheres of mutual understanding, and for the joint or parallel action of the two countries to strengthen peace, trust, security, and cooperation in Europe and beyond its borders. The sides recognized that broad, productive dialogue at all levels -- political, parliamentary, and public -- was an essential element in normal, healthy relations between East and West. They expressed the mutual conviction that the constructive character of relations between the Soviet Union and Spain serves not only the vital interests of the peoples of both countries, but also the cause of strengthening international peace and cooperation. Emphasis was put on the significance of developing a political dialogue between the USSR and Spain at various levels. Political dialogue is an irreplaceable instrument for the growth of trust and mutual understanding, for establishing cooperation both in resolving bilateral issues and in the context of assistance to settle the more urgent problems of the situations in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the whole world.

Felipe Gonzalez' attention was drawn to the Soviet peace initiatives, including the strengthening of an international procedure for the safe development of nuclear power engineering, proposed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his Soviet television speech of 14 May, and the Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August.

On his part, Felipe Gonzalez confirmed the Spanish Government's intention to assist in strengthening peace and curbing the arms race. He appraised highly recent Soviet initiatives in the disarmament sphere, emphasizing that they would gave a significant impetus to efforts aimed at reducing and eliminating weapons.

An exchange of views took place on prospects for further developing trade, economic, and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and Spain. The elaboration as soon as possible of a long-term program for the development of economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries would help to strengthen further the treaty basis of Soviet-Spanish economic and industrial cooperation. This was agreed on during the talks.

Noting that in past years Soviet-Spanish ties in the cultural and sports fields have been noticeably developed through public organizations, the sides supported expanding them and including new spheres of cooperation, such as health care and environmental protection.

Taking part in the talks on the Soviet side were Shevardnadze, Talyzin, and other comrades. On the Spanish side were officials accompanying Felipe Gonzalez.

Ryzhkov Dinner Speech

PM211129 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May First Edition p 1

[Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1620 GMT on 19 May transmits a report on Ryzhkov's speech, which adds the following: "A dinner in honor of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and his wife was given on behalf of the Soviet Government in the Grand Kremlin Palace on 19 May. The officials accompanying Gonzalez on his visit were also present at the dinner. Present from the Soviet side were: Nikolay Ryzhkov and his wife; Geydar Aliyev; Eduard Shevardnadze; Petr Demichev; Nikolay Talyzin and Aleksandr Yakovlev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR ministers, chairmen of the USSR State Committees, and other officials. Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, delivered a speech at the dinner."]

Your visit to the Soviet Union, my dear Mr Gonzalez, is convincing evidence of the fact that Soviet-Spanish relations and contacts have attained a good level. Indicative of this is the fact that this is the first visit by a head of the Spanish Government in the entire history of relations between our countries. The Soviet leadership welcomes their development and intends to continue promoting them in a comprehensive way in the future. In assessing the accomplishments, one cannot fail to mention that we appreciate the trip to the Soviet Union made by King Juan Carlos I in the summer of 1984.

Our two states, located at the opposite ends of Europe, are separated geographically from each other. There are also other differences: for instance, the character of the social setup, the place in the system of political alliances. However, the universal principle of peaceful coexistence, of which the Soviet Union remains a convinced advocate, holds that such differences should not be an obstacle in the way of normal, mutually beneficial relations if they are developed by both sides on the basis of goodwill, mutual respect, and noninterference.

The Soviet people's attitude toward the Spaniards is that of sincere sympathy. They have always welcomed in a friendly way the Spanish people's striving for progress and for democratization of social life. As far as we can judge, goodwill between our peoples is mutual and it is deep-rooted. The Soviet Union is prepared to expand cooperation with Spain and to increase its political dialogue with it. It is in the interests of both countries that our political consultations be imparted a regular character and for greater dynamism to be exhibited in mutually beneficial exchanges in the economic, scientific and technological, and cultural spheres.

The talks which began today and the forthcoming meeting between Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez and CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev will initiate, we hope, a new stage in developing Soviet-Spanish relations in various areas.

The importance of this Soviet-Spanish meeting is not merely bilateral. It accords, in our opinion, with the joint efforts by many nations in favor of easing tension and restoring the policy of detente. In order to look jointly for opportunities to radically improve the situation in Europe and the world, and in order to strengthen trust, there is no other way but to broaden contacts, consultations, and constructive exchanges -- everything that is covered by the common notion of East-West dialogue.

The problems facing mankind in the last decades of the 20th century demand unusual, innovative approaches. In response to this demand, the Soviet Union offers a comprehensive program for restructuring international relations on new, sensible foundations.

This aim is served by the plan for a stage-by-stage movement aimed at ridding the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. This aim is served by the steps directed at preventing an arms race in outer space and promoting widespread international cooperation in its peaceful uses. This aim is served by the proposal of the 27th CPSU Congress for establishing the foundations of a comprehensive security system to encompass the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres. Finally, in line with that are our initiatives on the elimination of chemical weapons and sharp cuts in conventional arms and armed forces in Europe.

Hard as the path of attaining this objective might be, it has to be taken in order to ensure the survival of mankind. Goodwill and readiness for sensible compromises will be required from every state. No one should doubt the Soviet Union's intention to act persistently and purposefully together with its allies and friends for the sake of maintaining and strengthening peace.

We also declare, just as definitely, that the attempts to exert pressure on the Soviet Union, to achieve unilateral advantages and violate military-strategic parity will not succeed. In the nuclear and space age, states, especially large ones, bear immense responsibility for preventing the crossing of the line separating the world from the irreparable. It is totally inadmissible to play with the destinies of peace by resorting to military adventures.

Is there any other assessment of the U.S. armed attack on Libya? Can one agree that this or that state should assume the right to carry out punitive operations, no matter under what pretext, against other sovereign states? The international community cannot allow arbitrariness and chaos to prevail in international relations.

The Soviet Union and Spain are directly concerned by the developments on the European Continent. We note with satisfaction that there is much in common in the approaches of our countries to European problems.

How do we view today the overdue tasks of European politics?

First of all, it is important to complete the first stage of the Stockholm Conference with positive results. That is possible and it is quite realistic, given a mutual desire to achieve accords. But as all signs indicate, that is precisely what some of our Western partners so far lack. Otherwise, it is difficult to explain why the conference has stalled. The success or the failure of Stockholm is, in the present situation, the touchstone of one's readiness to strive by deeds, not by words, to diminish the threat of war on our continent and to really strengthen trust. This is necessary both in itself, and for a new all-European meeting in Vienna. I think that Spain, like the Soviet Union, would like the Vienna meeting to adopt a decision to turn to the second phase of the conference to deal with disarmament in Europe. This would impart a new impetus to the development of the Helsinki process in all its aspects.

Ridding Europe of the burden of armaments, especially nuclear ones, has become the most urgent need. Our attitude toward the position of Spain, which does not wish to have nuclear weapons on its territory, is that of understanding and respect. The Soviet Union, for its part, has advanced large-scale and constructive proposals that largely take into account the concerns and worries of West Europeans.

We hope that they have not yet given their final word in response to our initiatives.

Peace-loving states should keep the arms race from spreading into outer space and curb it on earth with concerted efforts. If that is not done, all countries, the entire world, will find themselves with less security. The experience acquired by mankind in developing destructive nuclear weapons should become, in the words of the great Cervantes, "Both a lesson for the present, and a warning for the future."

The tragic accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant came as an ample warning to mankind. The misfortune, caused by a breakdown at the station, is not commensurate with the destructive, pernicious whirlwind contained in the nuclear weapons.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, I want to express gratitude to Spain for its expression of sympathy, and for the proposals of aid to eliminate the accident's consequences.

We are drawing conclusions from the mishap -- both for ourselves and for cooperation with other countries in the interests of the international community. The Soviet Union suggests establishing an international body for the safe development of the atomic industry, and mending the mechanism for providing reciprocal assistance as soon as possible in dangerous situations. But the most important thing is to achieve the earliest elimination of the catastrophic threat harbored by the thousands of nuclear warheads accumulated in the arsenals of the states. The first step toward that is to end nuclear testing. The Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium until 6 August -- Hiroshima Day -- was prompted entirely by the aspiration to rid mankind of that threat.

That is why the appeal made by Mikhail Gorabchev in his televised address to the United States -- to weigh with all responsiblity the measure of the threat looming over mankind -- is shared by millions of people in all countries of the world.

One hopes that, in the struggle against the nuclear threat, our peoples will always be together, because this cause is common to all.

Our slogan is that scientific and technological progress should promote peace. Among the countries with which the Soviet Union cooperates in the most advanced branches of science and engineering, we would be glad to see more often Spain, a country with growing industrial and scientific potential.

Mr Prime Minister, let me with you, your esteemed wife, and all our Spanish guests a pleasant and useful stay in our country, good health and well-being. We wish happiness, peace and progress to the friendly Spanish people.

Let Soviet-Spanish relations be further developed for the benefit of our countries' peoples and in the interests of European and universal security.

Gonzalez Dinner Speech

LD192058 Moscow TASS in English 2031 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- A dialogue between Eastern and Western countries can be realistic and fruitful if it is based on the following three points: disarmament, a peaceful solution to all world conflicts, and cooperation between peoples, Felipe Gonzelez, chairman [as received] of the Spanish Government, stated in a speech at a dinner in the Kremlin today.

The dinner was given in his honour on behalf of the Government of the USSR.

The Geneva summit, he went on to say, was taken by everyone with a great hope. The two great powers -- the USSR and the USA -- cannot ignore each other. The expectation of another summit in Geneva and the resumption of the talks are new reassuring signs of a desire to achieve mutual understanding. This should not be lost.

The problem of disarmament and arms limitation more than any other one requires study and discussion at international forums. Main attention, as is perfectly clear, should be devoted to talks between the USSR and the USA -- the mightiest powers which bear world responsibility -- without losing sight of tasks which are tackled within the U.N. framework.

A success of the talks on disarmament is in need of better trust between negotiators. This can be achieved only through the establishment of an appropriate system of information and communication to explain any doubts as to the intentions of each side as well as through the working out of a verification machinery which would guarantee the observance of agreements reached.

Peace should be achieved not only through disarmament, but also through overcoming conflicts wherever they arise. In this sense relaxation of tension should be reckoned a world factor, according to the Final Act of the Helsinki conference, and not the exclusively European one.

The world has known no world wars since 1945. This is to the credit of the contemporary international order. But there exist regional conflicts -- from Central America to Central Asia, from southern Africa to Indochina. Unfortunately, war remains a formidable enemy of mankind. As long as the conflicts go on, mutual distrust between countries will not disappear, Felipe Gonzales emphasized.

We support with enthusiasm the process of restoring democracy in South American countries and deplore that they are exposed to danger owing to the economic crisis. A cause of particular concern for us is conflicts in Central America. They should be settled within the framework of the talks with the Contadora group which from the point of view of the interests of the region is most suitable for resolving the issues raised.

We likewise follow with unremitting attention the developments in the Mediterranean, especially those which have relation to Northern Africa and the Middle East. Spain holds, in part, that a fresh impulse should be given to the process of the settlement of the situation in the Middle East on the basis of U.N. resolutions in order to end the occupation of territories and guarantee effectively the genuine interests of the Palestinian people and the right of all states in that region, including Israel, to peaceful existence, recognized and safe borders.

The completion of the Stockholm conference from which we expect positive results is not far off. Simultaneously, such principles as, for instance, banning the use of force in international relations, should be confirmed and concrete measures, which bolster confidence and without which these statements would be devoid any sense, taken.

We are confident that the process begun in Helsinki is not yet over and that the European dialogue should be continued until Europeans on our continent feel more securely.

In conclusion Gonzalez pointed out that the relations between Spain and the USSR become increasingly stronger and cordial day after day.

Meets Gorbachev

LD201655 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev had a meeting in the Kremlin today with the prime minister of Spain, secretary general of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party Felipe Gonzalez.

During their detailed conversation Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez outlined to each other the principles and methods of solving pressing problems of the economic and political development of their countries in accordance with their historic choice and in conditions of belonging to different social systems. Views were exchanged on the specificities of the scientific-technical modernisation of production, its social consequences in the Soviet Union and Spain.

The crux of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress is to utilize the deep-rooted possibilities of socialism, to make fuller use of its potential by pursuing the strategy of acceleration, Mikhail Gorbachev stressed.

When discussing international problems Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzelez agreed that the interconnection and interdependence of states is rapidly growing despite the entire diversity and contradictory nature of the present-day world and pressingly dictating the need of a new mentality, of new approaches in world politics.

On the main question -- ending the arms race and liquidating the danger of nuclear war -- they agreed that understanding of the entire danger of the line that has been approached by the world is decisive. This calls for prompt collective efforts to strengthen the principles of peaceful coexistence, political interaction, dialogue and talks between various states. On confirming his consent to a new meeting with the American President Mikhail Gorbachev stressed that when assessing the prospects of this meeting one cannot depart from the real policy that is being pursued after the first meeting in Geneva. There is much in the behaviour of the United States Administration that is incompatible with political morals, worsens the international atmosphere, increases tension in Soviet-American relations and testifies to the intent to continue the policy of achieving military superiority and intensifying the arms race. There is no sign of steps taken in response to the Soviet initiatives after Geneva, there are no serious proposals concerning the possible practical results of a new summit meeting.

The problem of trust, which also cannot be isolated from readiness to do something concrete to lower the level of armaments, was discussed. If the arms race is spread to new spheres, if the ABM and SALT-2 treaties are undermined, the degree of mistrust will grow in geometrical progression and undermine to a still greater extent the stability of international relations.

The situation must be improved. To achieve this it is time to start somewhere, to start moving, to set an example. That is why we are proposing to start with the most understandable and possible steps that could be taken out of the overall context without disrupting the balance and violating anybody's security, that is to start with the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and stopping nuclear tests.

The Soviet Union is prepared to search for mutually acceptable forms of control, but control over disarmament and not over the buildup and perfection of armaments. When it puts its signature to an agreement the Soviet Union keeps its word firmly.

We are in a serious mood, Mikhail Gorbachev went on. In connection with the Chernobyl accident we looked into the eyes of the danger posed by the atom when it escapes control. We shall not be found wanting in solving jointly with other countries the vital questions raised by the nuclear-space age.

As a result of their serious discussion, a frank and wellwishing comparison of positions, displaying mutual respect for opinions and differences of conditions Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez arrived at the conclusion that it is necessary to deepen interaction between the USSR and Spain in mutual interests, in the interests of the whole of Europe and of improving the situation in the world, and expressed confidence that this visit will give a new impetus to the development of politicial dialogue, economic and cultural relations, to the expansion of friendly intercourse between the peoples of the two countries.

Mikhail Gorbachev wished the Spanish people progress and prosperity.

Felipe Gonzalez wished the Soviet people success in fulfilling the plans outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Meets Gromyko

LD201939 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Andrey Gromyko today received in the Kremlin the Prime Minister of Spain Felipe Gonzalez and the personages accompanying him.

Felipe Gonzalez noted that he was greatly impressed by his frank and substantive conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev.

On mutual agreement Andrey Gromyko and Felipe Gonzalez concentrated their attention on international problems: state terrorism, the situation in Central America and the Mediterranean area.

It was stated from the Soviet side that the USSR is emphatically against any countries imposing on other countries norms and standards related to their internal affairs.

"Who can deny that the struggle against Nicaragus is being conducted by forces that are trained, armed and paid by the United States?" -- Andrey Gromyko queried. "True, Nicaragua is a small country but is this reason enough for Washington to dictate to it its will in matters concerning its internal social arrangement?"

"The Soviet Union wants countries to find a common tongue and not to reach for their weapons whenever they feel like it. The organisers and instigators of state terrorism are those who have turned terror into a part of their foreign policy. And this is exactly how the United States conducts itself in the international arena".

"Nicaragua wants a political solution to the problems of Central America. This is promoted also by the activity of the Contadora Group of countries. The Soviet Union supports the striving to find a diplomatic way out of the existing situation but in such a way that Nicaragua's independence would be preserved."

Andrey Gromyko stressed that the Mediterranean area is an important and dangerous one. Figuratively speaking, its waters have a nuclear filling. The Soviet Union has come out for a radical solution of the problem in that area -- to turn the Mediterranean into a sea of peace.

The United States aggression against Libya is being portrayed in Washington in such a way as if the whole world is almost jubilant on the occasion of this action. The Soviet Union, just as the overwhelming majority of other countries in the world, sternly condemns it and contends that not one country has the right to be a judge, a prosecutor or the more so an executioner.

The Spanish side also stated the need to solve the process of settlement in Central America with the help of the Contadora group and supported the Soviet proposals concerning the Mediterranean Sea.

The problem of European security was also discussed. Andrey Gromyko said that here the USSR has clear-cut proposals of the 27th CPSU Congress but the course of the talks on the European subject-matter bears the imprint of the overall dangerous situation which has now deteriorated in the world through the fault of the United States.

Felipe Gonzalez declared Spain's striving to achieve a positive solution in questions of European security. He also declared for the ending of the arms race, restoration of trust, expansion of East-West dialogue and cooperation, in particular between the Soviet Union and Spain.

Meets Ryzhkov 20 May

LD201528 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Talks between member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov and Spain's Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez ended in the Kremlin today. Taking part in the talks were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee Nikolay Talyzin.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the course of the talks which showed the readiness of the sides and the existence of additional potentialities for the development of bilateral ties and contacts in various spheres, including the continuation and deepening of a political dialogue. Arrangement was reached to impart a more regular nature to political consultations between the USSR and Spain and ensure that they comprise a wider range of questions of mutual interest. The results of the discussion of concrete matters of Soviet-Spanish cooperation in the commercial and economic spheres, also from the viewpoint of the possibilities of establishing industrial cooperation were summed up.

Documents Signed

LD201537 Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- A protocol on the further development of economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Spain and an agreement between the USSR and Spain on international motor traffic were signed today.

Present at the signing ceremony were Nikolay Ryzhkov, Eduard Shevardnadze, Nikolay Talyzin and other officials as well as Spanish statesmen accompanying Felipe Gonzalez.

Ministers Discuss Economics

LD201315 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1225 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- The development of trade and economic links between the USSR and Spain was discussed at a meeting between Boris Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade, and Carlos Solchaga Catalan, Spanish minister of economy, trade, and finance.

Soviet-Spanish trade links in the postwar period have a relatively short history, and since the trade agreement was signed in 1972 turnover in mutual trade has increased thirteenfold, from R45 million to R588 million in 1985. But the sides agreed that even now the possibilities for expanding trade are far from being fully utilized, and there exists a wide field of activity for Soviet associations and Spanish firms and organizations to work for expanding commercial links.

The head of the Soviet delegation stressed the need for further efforts by both sides aimed at working out new forms of trade, at widening the range of goods available, and at further improving the structure of trade between the two countries.

Other aspects of trade and economic links between the two countries, such as the activities of joint companies, financial questions, the development of industrial cooperation, possibilities for joint operations on the markets of third countries, and trade and political conditions for implementing economic links were discussed. The progress of negotiations on several specific projects was examined.

Carlos Solchaga Catalan noted the mutual advantage of extending the two countries trade and economic links and the need to work out new forms of reciprocal trade, like compensation deals [kompensatsionnyye sdelki], for example. He also noted the positive role of the Soviet-Spanish Intergovernmental Commission on Economic and Industrial Cooperation on expanding and diversifying bilateral trade.

Agreement on Fertilizer Complex

LD210508 Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 20 TASS -- A. Kachanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, had a conversation today with G. de la Dees, secretary general of the Spanish trade agency, and J. Escondrillas, chairman of the board of directors of the Spanish company "Union Explosivos Rio Tinto S.A." on problems of Soviet-Spanish economic cooperation.

The Soviet foreign trade association "Neftechimpromexport" and "Union Explosivos Rio Tinto S.A." signed an agreement on questions connected with the construction of a complex for the production of mineral fertilizers.

Further on Trade

LD201618 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- President of the Board of the USSR State Bank Viktor Dementsev received Spain's minister for economics, finance and trade Carlos Solchaga. They had a conversation on matters of the further development of commercial, economic and financial cooperation between the two countries.

Shevardnadze, Counterpart Meet

LD201556 Moscow TASS in English 1526 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Eduard Shevardnadze had a meeting today with the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Francisco Fernandez Ordonez.

Some pressing problems of the situation in Europe with a special emphasis on the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and on preparations for an all-European meeting in Vienna, as well as some questions of further developing Soviet-Spanish relations, including the proposal to continue political consultations between the Soviet Union and Spain on a more regular basis, were dealt with during the conversation that passed in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere.

Gonzalez Honors 'Unknown Soldier'

LD200728 Moscow TASS in English 0709 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 20 TASS -- Felipe Gonzalez today laid a wreath to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin wall. He was accompanied by Guriy Marchuk, a deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The Spanish head of government arrived in Moscow Monday on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Attends Bolshoy Performance

LD201750 Moscow TASS in English 1709 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Felipe Gonzalez and his wife attended Modest Mussorgskiy's opera "Boris Godunov" in the Bolshoy Theatre today.

In the central box decked out with the state flags of Spain and the Soviet Union, together with the guests were Nikolay Ryzhkov and his wife, and other officials. The national anthems of the two countries were played before the commencement of the performance.

Gives Press Conference

LD211008 Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- The aim of our visit to the Soviet Union was above all to find the means of rapprochement, to have the relations further developed on a bilateral basis in the political, economic and cultural fields and to back up the dialogue on international questions at the present-day stage of the struggle for peace, said Felipe Gonzalez, chairman of the government of Spain, at a press conference held here today. Felipe Gonzalez is now staying in the USSR on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Touching upon negotiations with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Mikhail Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders, Filipe Gonzalez noted that the negotiations were held in the spirit of frankness and qualified their results as positive.

Speaking of problems of Central America, the head of the government of Spain said that these problems call for a regional solution and noted the important role of the Contadora Group. If its efforts are not crowned with success, this would create a dangerous political vacuum. Additional steps should be taken to avoid an impasse, stressed Filipe Gonzales.

Answering the question on the recent crisis in the Mediterranean, caused by the U.S. aggression against Libya, Filipe Gonzalez said that Spain stood against the use of force in solution of disputable issues.

The head of the government of Spain declared in support of any initiatives aimed at limitation of the arms race, at disarmament and detente. He expressed the hope for successful completion of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe and stressed that Spain was doing its utmost for that. Though Spain is a NATO member, I personally stand for ending the bloc policy, he stressed.

Touching upon the Chernobyl accident, Filipe Gonzalez noted that such an event was naturally the cause of universal concern. We treated with caution the assessment of that incident so that not to be carried away by the first minute impressions. [sentence as received] At the negotiations we discussed the need of forming the mechanism of information, coordination at the international level, which could be helpful to all in preventing and dealing with consequences of such accidents.

Such trouble may befall any country. We received from the Soviet side proposals concerning the role in this matter of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). They spoke about all this in a very constructive spirit which, unquestionably, will contribute towards dialogue in the future.

Responding to a question whether the possibility was discussed of putting off his visit to the Soviet Union because of the accident at Chernobyl, the head of the Spanish Government said that delaying the visit would mean applying a political character to the accident, what Spain did not want to do.

Gonzalez informed those present that he conveyed to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev a cordial invitation to visit Spain.

IZVESTIYA Lists Greeting Party

PM201238 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 May 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "On an Official Visit"]

[Text] Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain and his wife arrived in Moscow 19 May on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

On the tarmac at Vnukovo Airport, the Spanish premier and his wife were welcomed by N.I. Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and his wife; and E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister.

The welcoming party included G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; M.S. Smirtyukov, USSR Council of Ministers administrator of affairs; USSR Ministers B.I. Aristov; B.P. Bugayev; S.P. Burenkov; T.B. Guzhenko; and V.M. Kamentsev; A.N. Aksenov, chairman of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting; S.A. Losev, director general of TASS; S.K. Romanovskiy, USSR ambassador to Spain; and other officials. J.L. Xifra, Spanish ambassador to the USSR, was also in the welcoming party.

The guest was greeted by representatives of Moscow's working people.

The state flags of Spain and the Soviet Union were flying at the airport and an honor guard of Moscow Garrison troops was lined up on the tarmac. A band played the state anthems of the two countries.

N.I. Ryzhkov and F. Gonzalez reviewed the lineup of Soviet servicemen. The welcoming ceremony ended with the march-past of the honor guard.

Moscow's streets and squares, through which the motorcade with its honorary escort of motorcyclists passed, were decked out with the state flags of Spain and the USSR and welcoming banners.

GORBACHEV MEETS PORTUGUESE CP LEADER

PM210900 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev met on 19 May with General Secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party Alvaro Cunhal, who is on vacation in the Soviet Union.

In a warm and friendly atmosphere of complete mutual understanding, M. Gorbachev and A. Cunhal informed each other of the CPSU and Portuguese Communist Party political and theoretical work on the present stage of development in their respective countries.

A profound exchange of views took place on major international problems, on the difficulties and prospects of the struggle against the nuclear threat and for the discontinuation of the arms race. Topical issues in the workers and communist movements were discussed.

The conversation confirmed the identify in principle of CPSU and Portuguese Communist Party views in the struggle for peace, socialism and progress of mankind in general. The sides expressed their mutual striving to promote in all ways the development of equal, mutually advantageous relations between the Soviet Union and Portugal, of friendly ties between the Soviet and Portuguese peoples.

GROMYKO RECEIVES ITALIAN CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

LD191836 **Moscow TASS in English 1805** GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Andrey Gromyko received in the Kremlin on May 19 president of the Christian Association of Italian Working People Domenico Rosati who is staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation.

Their conversation which passes in a warm and friendly atmosphere was devoted to the problem of the struggle for peace. The association's president said that the organization he represents is one of the most influential public organizations of Italy and has a membership of over half a million. He emphasized that the main aim of the struggle of the organization he heads is to exert every effort to prevent nuclear war.

"The events in Chernobyl," Domenico Rosati said, "have shown what danger is posed by nuclear energy that went out of control. What has happened also compels everyone who declares for peace to step up greatly their activity in the struggle against nuclear weapons".

The Soviet side expressed satisfaction with the fact the USSR peace initiatives set out in the statements of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and in the documents of the 27th party congress met with understanding of broad public of Italy.

"The Soviet Union holds that the 15 years that remain to go before the end of the 20th century are enough to put an end to nuclear threat and to agree on non-emplacement of strike arms in space", Andrey Grokyko said. "These proposals are on the table of the President of the United States in the White House and on the tables of governments in other countries".

"The concrete, clear-cut Soviet programme of the elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere is also aimed at creating an all-embracing system of international security, also a system of European security. The peoples should compel their political leaders, adherents to the arms race, to exert efforts to bring about its end, not to widen its scopes. This is a feasible task. It is only political will and resolve that are needed.

"But the Soviet proposals are blocked by those circles of the United States that imposed the arms race on the world and obsessively exert efforts to spread it.

"On many other directions of its foreign policy, Washington acts in such a way to whip up still more tension in various areas of the world. This is shown by the act of aggression against independent Libya -- the bombing of its cities. The undeclared war against Nicaragua which the United States is waging with the used of hired terrorists is in the mainstream of the same course.

"Thus, in foreign affairs the U.S. Administration is acting not in the direction on which it was agreed during the summit meeting in Geneva. The United States, specifically, does not observe the agreed upon provision that both countries will not be seeking to achieve military superiority. And the whole world knows that the United States does not even agree to end nuclear weapon tests even though peoples, one might say, damn those who resist the ban on this testing.

"The accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station, above all, convinced people once again that there must be most serious efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons. Precisely this opinion is now expressed by all those who demand that such solutions be found that would preclude nuclear menace in all its types forever.

"Thus the struggle of those who oppose the arms race against those who continue it is the struggle between life and death. All countries are under the same roof -- our common skies. The Soviet Union favours the triumph of life, not the grim philosophy of turning the earth into a nuclear cemetery".

In conclusion of the conversation Andrey Gromyko noted that people in the Soviet Union appreciate the efforts of all organisations declaring for peace, regardless of their political or religious views, differences in their ideological views. People in our country have a positive attitude also to the anti-war activity of the Christian Association of Italian Working People.

ECONOMIC TALKS WITH SWEDEN OPEN 20 MAY

LD200343 Moscow TASS International Service in German 2121 GMT 19 May 86

[Excerpts] Stockholm, 20 May (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov writes: The 14th session of the Intergovernmental Soviet-Swedish Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation begins its work in Stockholm today. The current session will propose further paths of development of mutually advantageous bilateral business contracts in the timber and paper industry, the development of the agro-industrial complex, the development of the Kola Peninsula's national resources, bilateral coastal trade, and the development of production cooperation in machine-building and other areas. Both sides stress that economic and scientific-technical cooperation is an important and integral part of relations between the USSR and Sweden as a whole and serves the cause of strengthening the traditional good-neighborliness between the two states.

TASS COMMENTARY: 'REVANCHISM' GAINING STRENGTH IN FRG

LD171500 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS -- Follows commentary by Aleksey Grigoriyev, TASS political news analyst:

It looks like time has stopped for them, and that over than [as received] 40 odd years they have not torn off a single leaf from the calendar. It is not a "clinical case", not a "tiny noisy group", as the FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl once said. One hundred and fifty thousand people will attend the rally of the Land Association of the Sudetenland Germans, as they name themselves, which is due to open in Munich today, 100 thousand -- the assemblage of Germans, who came from Upper Silesia, which is opening in Essen today, tens of thousands of participants in similar rallies in Dunkelsbuehl, Ulm, Feldbach and Heilbronn... [sentence as received] Indeed, this weekend in the FRG is passing under the badge of revanchism.

It has existed practically as long as the FRG itself. But for the three years and a half of the rule in Bonn of the CDU/CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union] -- FDP [Free Democratic Party] those, who pitifully name themselves "exelees", but who are aptly described in the FRG as "die ewig gestrige" (eternally yesterday's), have really gained their "second wind". "Without the financial aid from the state funds the 'expellees' would have long breathed their last," the "STERN" magazine pointed out. One can be very well off, indeed, on annual subsidies from the federal and land budgets totalling nearly 100 million marks, to say nothing of the anonymous donations running into many millions, as well as membership dues paid by 2.5 million people.

Yet the revanchist leaders get from official Bonn not only material, but also political support, since revanchism in the FRG is being elevated to the level of state policy. But it cannot be different, if more than 40 deputies out of almost 500 in the Bundestag today are direct representatives of the revanchist "land associations". It cannot be different if Chancellor Helmut Kohl himself and the members of his cabinet, the Bavarian premier, CSU leader Franz-Joseph Strauss and other notable political figures of the country are permanent speakers at the revanchist rallies, where framed in a folklore setting, it is declared for everybody to hear that the "German Reich continues in existence in the borders of 1937", that the "borders in Eastern Europe are not final" and the "German issue reamins open".

For almost 20 years, the heads of the West German cabinets refrained from making statements at assemblages of the "eternally yesterday's". On September 2, 1984, when mankind was marking the 45th anniversary since the start of that most terrible war in its history, Chancellor Kohl rose to speak in Braunschweig at an assembly of those who demanded that the Nazi crimes be consigned in oblivion. Today he is again on the rostrum in Munich. And between those two speeches he also addressed an assemblage of the so-called "Silesian Germans" in Hannover and together with U.S. President Reagan laid wreaths to the tombs of SS-men in Bittburg township, for which both of them received a mountain of congratulatory telegrams from the revanchist "land associations".

Common sense dmands that the cause and the consequence should not be mixed. It must be noted, for that matter, that the official Bonn propaganda also "mixes" the cause with its consequences, when reporting on the reaction in the USSR to the drum-beating and marches of West German revanchism. Revanchism was invented not in Moscow, neither in Warsaw, nor Prague. It exists and is gaining strength in the FRG.

Denying this obvious fact is as unreasonable as it is to believe that time has stopped. The calendar has recently said that the trial by the peoples of the main Nazi war criminals had begun in Nuremberg 40 years ago. Nobody should forget the lessons of Nuremberg.

LIZICHEV DEPARTS 19 MAY FOR OFFICIAL TALKS WITH SYRIA

PM201420 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit to Syria"]

[Text] Army General A.D. Lizichev, CPSU Central Committee member and chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, left 19 May on a working visit to the Syrian Arab Republic at the invitation of the Syrian Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Political Directorate.

He was seen off at the airport by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, Colonel General V.S. Nechayev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and other officials.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS SYRIAN RESPONSE TO U.S.-ISRAELI 'THREAT'

PM201345 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "On a Fabricated Pretext. Anti-Syrian Campaign Intensifying"]

[Text] Washington, 18 May -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has sharply criticized the anti-Syrian campaign unleashed by the United States and Israel and has stated that the Syrian people will not be scared by any threats. In an interview with THE WASHINGTON POST he resolutely rejected the slanderous accusations that Syria allegedly "supports terrorism." Syria condemns acts of terrorism, particularly against civil aircraft, and considers them shameful. As for the United States, it is unjustified in making such accusations at all, since the CIA plays a considerable role in many terrorist organizations in the world. H. al-Asad stressed.

Touching on Washington's aggression against Libya, he noted that this bandit attack has generated worldwide anger and alarm. In all respects the United States has suffered a clear defeat.

Damascus, 18 May -- The Syrian People's Assembly (parliament) has angrily condemned the intensive U.S. and Israeli preparations for unleashing a new large-scale military adventure in the Near East.

It was noted at a session held here that the barbarous U.S. attack on Libya and the malicious campaign of U.S. and Israeli threats against Syria attest to the dangerous intentions of Washington and its Israeli partner in the anti-Arab strategic alliance.

The deputies stated the Syrian people's resolve to give a worthy rebuff to any incursions on the country's independence and sovereignty and to continue the just struggle, with other forces of the national liberation movement in the Arab world, against the expansionist and hegemonist aspirations of imperialism and Zionism in the Near East.

In actively preparing large-scale aggression against the Arabs, first and foremost Syria, the "Strategic allies" are clearly in a hurry. They must hurry because of the logic of events in the Near East, which shows that time is working against the United States and Israel, writes Syria's AL-THAWRAH newspaper.

The notorious Camp David accord was stillborn. The Lebanese-Israeli agreement, concluded under the guns of the U.S. Naval armada, failed. From day to day the struggle of patriots in occupied south Lebanon, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip increases. Despite threats and blackmail, Syria is firmly following a principled anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist course, the newspaper notes.

Tripoli, 18 May -- The Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has concluded that the Israeli armed aggression and the U.S. threats against Syria are the latest link in the chain of the aggressive plots of U.S. imperialism and Zionism against the Arab peoples.

The goal of these plans, says a statement of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison published here, is to impose on the Arab countries capitulatory ways of "settling" the Near East conflict, to wreck the just solution of the Palestinian problem, and to establish U.S.-Israeli domination in the region. Libya has called on the Arab peoples to prepare to repulse a new aggressive raid by imperialism and Zionism.

HUSAYN RECEIVES KATUSHEV DELEGATION 21 MAY

LD210643 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0609 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Andrey Ostalskky reports: Saddam Husayn, chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council] and president of Iraq, today received Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who heads the Soviet Government delegation to the 16th plenary session of the Soviet-Iraqi Standing Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation. The commission discussed questions concerning Soviet-Iraqi relations in various fields.

The Iraqi head of state highly appraised the successful development of cooperation between the two countries. A mutual desire was expressed for further strengthening of friendly bilateral relations. During the course of the intergovernmental commission session, an agreement on economic, scientific-technical, and commercial cooperation for the 1986-1990 period was signed, as were contracts for the construction of a number of projects in Iraq, including the first section of the trans-Iraqi gas pipeline and the rendering of assistance in building the Tigris-Euphrates drainage canal.

Iraqi Reportage on Talks

For Baghdad INA coverage of the convening of the 16th session of the Iraqi-Soviet Joint Committee on Economic, Technical, and Scientific Cooperation attended by the delegation led by Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, including talks with officials, see the Iraq section of the 20 May Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

TASS CARRIES GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICA RAID

LD201642 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- Follows the full text of a Soviet Government statement:

The world has witnessed once again an escalation of violence in the south of Africa. Showing once again its total disregard for the norms of international law and civilised behaviour, the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa has made a bandit attack on neighbouring African countries.

In the morning of May 19 special detachments of the South African Armed Forces attacked targets in the capital of Zimbabwe, Harare and near the capital of Botswana, Gaborone. The South African aviation attacked a camp of South African refugees near the capital of Zambia, Lusaka. These actions caused loss of life and destruction. A spokesman of the command of the racist regime's Armed Forces has stated that these raids were against bases of the African National Congress (ANC), a liberation organization struggling for liquidating the inhuman system of apartheid in South Africa.

The new crime of the South African military has become yet another link in the chain of unceasing acts of aggression by the racists against independent African peoples. The Pretoria regime's plans are obvious: to intimidate the continent's free countries, to make them withdraw support from the just cause of the patriots of South Africa, and to subordinate the peoples of these countries to its will.

One cannot but note the sinister link between the aggressive actions of the Pretoria racists and the actions of their patrons from across the ocean that are analogous in style and method. The policy of state terrorism pursued by the American Administration, including the recent barbarous attack on Libya and the unceasing threats against other freedom-loving states, is an example for emulation by the Pretoria regime which has been declared in the White House to be a "historical ally" of the United States.

The regime of apartheid is trying to prolong its existence by means of bloody repressions inside the Republic of South Africa and by means of aggression against neighbouring countries. This confirms once again the indisputable truth that racism institutionalised in a state possess a serious threat to peace and the security of peoples, that it cannot be reformed, that it should be immediately and completely eliminated.

The Soviet Union firmly condemns the attack by the South African racists on Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia. Being true to its policy directed at maintaining universal peace and the security of peoples, it resolutely demands an immediate end to the criminal policy of terror and violence pursued by the authorities of the Republic of South Africa. The demand of the world community to apply to the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa comprehensive mandatory sanctions in accordance with Chapter 7 of the United Nations Charter should at long last be carried out in the interests of our planet's peaceful future.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman

LD201115 Moscow International Service in Russian 1038 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- The world has once again witnessed an escalation of violence in southern Africa and the complete contempt for the standards of international law held by the racist regime of the RSA [Republic of South Africa], a USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman stated at a press conference here today.

As a result of the lawless attack by the South African military machine on the territory of Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Zambia, there are human fatalities and destruction, he noted. This latest crime by the racists has become another link in the chain of unceasing acts of aggression and terror against the peoples of Africa. The designs of the Pretoria regime are evidently to intimidate the free states of the continent to force them to renounce support for the just cause of the patriots of southern Africa and to bend to their will the peoples of those countries.

The USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out the sinister link between the aggression of the racists from Pretoria and the actions, similar in style and method, of their Washington sponsors, who are carrying out a policy of state terrorism, and the actions of the Israeli Zionists against Lebanon. The recent barbaric attack upon Libya by the United States and the threats against other independent states have been chosen by the racist regime as a model for limitation, he said.

Racism, elevated to the status of state policy, represents a serious threat to the peace and security of the peoples. The Soviet Union believes that apartheid cannot be reformed and that it should be eliminated immediately and completely, the Foreign Ministry spokesman declared. Condemning the lawless attack upon independent African states, the USSR demands that an end be put to the criminal policy of terror and violence on the part of the RSA authorities and that the demands the world community adopt comprehensive mandatory sanctions to be applied against the RSA racist regime.

BURKINA FASO ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

PM191351 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Credentials Presented"]

[Text] Melege Traore, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Burkina Faso, presented his credentials 13 May in the Kremlin to B. Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

After the presentation of credentials and exchange of speeches between B. Yazkuliyev and M. Traore, a friendly talk was held. Taking part were L.F. Ilichev, USSR deputy foreign minister, and V.G. Vysotin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON CHERNOBYL REPORTED

Shcherbitskiy, Lyashko Visit Evacuees

LD201211 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0230 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and Lyashko, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, visited several populated localities in Borodyanka and Makarov Rayons, Kiev Oblast, where the evacuated people from Chernobyl Rayon have temporarily settled. A talk ensued at the premises of the Borodyanka Raykom. The first secretary of the Borodyanka Raykom and the first secretary of the Chernobyl Raykom briefed them on the work of local party and government organizations on ensuring the organized placement of evacuees, providing work for them and creating for them normal living conditions. [Passage indistinct].

The first secretary of the Ukrainain Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers considered a number of questions connected with the work of the industrial enterprises and kolkhozes evacuated from Chernobyl Rayon and expressed some recommendations on organizing the work of medical establishments, trade outlets, and services centers. [Passage indistinct].

At the summer camp of the [name indistinct] Sovkhoz, "Druzhba" Kolkhoz from Chernobyl Rayon, and at the "Lenin" Kolkhoz were the "Peremoha" Kolkhoz from Chernobyl Rayon has found refuge, they met with machine operators, livestock breeders, and farm managers.

Comrades Shcherbitskiy and Lyashko acquainted themselves with the work of the Makarov Rayon polyclinic and talked with workers of medical and dosimetric stations alongside the highways of the rayon.

Revenko, first secretary of the Kiev Obkom, took part in the tour.

Velikhoz Updates Containment Work

LD201300 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1155 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- The work on eliminating the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl AES is proceeding successfully, Yevgeniy Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, stated in an interview with a correspondent of the Moscow magazine OGONEK.

Nobody in the world has been confronted with an accident of this kind. And the unusual situation demanded nonstandard, occasionally even unexpected solutions, the scientist reported. The protective zone of the reactor was broken, its colling interrupted, and an extremely hot "crystal" has been formed. How to cool it? How would it behave? Would the range of the accident broaden? We could not answer such questions in the first days of the accident, and that is why we tried to provide for all possible variations, in order to localize the impact of what happened and not permit further pollution of the atmosphere and the locality by radioactive products.

Nobody has ever been in a situation in which it was necessary to assess the situation with irreproachable accuracy to find a solution and implement it within the shortest possible time. And problems of this kind were arising every day in a great number.

Owing to the measures taken, there has been success in preventing development [razvitiye] of the accident and in creating a "zone of cold" around it and in starting the intensive cooling of the core of the reactor. This work is proceeding successfully. Concretization of the unit has begun; it will be fully closed. We will "bury" the reactor.

The accident at the station brought many lessons, Yevgeniy Velikhov continued. We are paying for them very dearly -- including, unfortunately, the highest price -- in human lives. And those dying of radiation injury and irradiation are remarkable, heroic people, who in the first days averted a spreading of the accident. People will remember their exploits forever.

But there is another lesson that all people on earth must learn. This accident is an insignificant incident compared with nuclear war. But it graphically shows what will happen to the planet if it nuclear catastrophe befalls it. Yes, we mourn the fallen, but the best remembrance of them is the banning and destruction of nuclear weapons. Atomic energy, forged into weaponry of bombs, shells, warheads, must disappear from the planet.

I am convinced that all sensible people on the planet will draw the right conclusions from the incident at Chernobyl, and the chief of these is stepping up the struggle for nuclear disarmament and support of the initiatives being put forward by the Soviet Union.

Evacuees Undergo Checkups

LD210847 Kiev in English to North America 2330 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Reports coming in from the Ukraine say that all the residents evacuated for reasons of safety from the 30-km zone around the Chernobyl nuclear power plant have already undergone all-round medical checkups. None of these people show any signs of illness which could endanger their health as a result of the accident which took place at this power plant at the end of April. More than half of all the patients have been discharged who were in Kiev under observation. Under control in the Chernobyl region is the purity of the environment and quality of foodstuffs. The Ukraine's health minister, Anatoliy Romanenko, speaking on television in Kiev, stated that except for the vicinity of the nuclear power plant, the situation in the republic is safe and there is no danger to people's health.

Western Embassies Refuse Trip to Kiev

AU200856 Paris AFP in English 0848 GMT 20 May 86

[Excerpt] Moscow, May 20 (AFP) -- Several Western embassies have refused a Soviet invitation for a visit to Kiev -- 130 kilometers (80 miles) south of Chernobyl -- Wednesday, on the grounds this would only interest nuclear experts, diplomatic sources said here. At the same time Western diplomats continue to insist they welcome any further information about the April 26 nuclear accident at Chernobyl.

The Soviet invitation was issued by the Foreign Ministry to all embassies here, diplomatic sources said. Those of West Germany, France and Britain indicated they would not be sending anyone. At the U.S. Embassy, a spokesman said no decision had been taken, but the response would be "probably negative."

Blix, Rosen Interviewed on Visit

DW201115 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 20 May 86 pp 136-139

[Interview with IAEA Director General Hans Blix and head of the IAEA nuclear safety department Morris Rosen by correspondents Klaus Franke and Hans-Peter Martin at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna -- date not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Messrs Blix and Rosen, so far you have been the only Western eyewitnesses who had a chance to inspect the wrecked reactor of Chernobyl. What did you see?

Blix: We flew with the helicopter over the town of Chernobyl first. The place, 18 km away from the power plant, is evacuated with the exception of the central coordination point. We landed there and saw a heap of sacks containing a mixture of sand, boron, lead, and dolomite. Some 400 tons of that material was dropped on the power plant to seal the reactor leak. Subsequently we flew over the power plant at a distance of 800 meters.

SPIEGEL: Were you not afraid of being harmed by radiation?

Blix: No, we fully trusted the Russians; they would not have invited us to fly there if they had not believed that no special danger prevailed. We were wearing protective suits and masks, and we had brought radiation measuring devices along from Vienna.

SPIEGEL: What was the dose you received?

Blix: During our whole trip to Moscow and Kiev including the helicopter flight we received a dose of 5 to 10 millirem.

SPIEGEL: What was it like to be flying over Chernobyl?

Blix: Well, everything was deserted, as was the entire region within the 30-km off-limits zone. Outside that zone we saw people working in the fields, livestock on the pastures, and motor vehicles on the roads.

SPIEGEL: Were you not shocked by what you saw?

Blix: Of course: The sight of the destroyed reactor was shocking. We saw the hole on the roof of the building, there is a lot of debris around, this is a sad sight. We prefer to see working and functioning reactors and not any that are destroyed.

SPIEGEL: Did you see any injured people?

Blix: No, no, none. We heard that all who had suffered radiation injuries had been taken to Moscow.

SPIEGEL: Did you have the impression that the people were informed about the accident?

Blix: They were bound to be informed in Kiev.

SPIEGEL: Even about the extent of the accident and the radiation?

Blix: Well, I did not talk with the people in the street.

SPIEGEL: Why not?

Blix: We were taken on a 2-hour tour to inspect the reactor.

Rosen: And we do not speak Russian, which makes matter more difficult.

SPIEGEL: Who invited you?

Blix: The Soviet mission with our organization, the IAEA in Vienna.

SPIEGEL: You said that you were able to hold "very direct and very frank talks with Soviet ministers and experts." Did you receive a satisfactory explanation of the accident?

Blix: No. The answer was that they have a number of theories as to the cause of the accident but that they had not yet decided which in their view would be the most probable. They declined discussions on the individual theories before arriving at a final conclusion.

SPIEGEL: Will we ever learn what actually happen?

Blix: We agreed that the Soviets will within the next 2 weeks come to Vienna for a conference of experts. They propose to give a detailed analysis there.

SPIEGEL: Will that be publicly accessible?

Blix: No, only the nuclear experts of our organization's member states will participate.

SPIEGEL: You yourself have no idea how the accident could have happened?

Rosen: The Russians told us that they have data from the control room of the destroyed reactor.

SPIEGEL: How did they obtain that?

Rosen: It was taken out of the control room.

SPIEGEL: By people? And they are still alive?

Rosen: Yes. They told us that these people wore protective masks and protective suits.

SPIEGEL: What emerges from the data?

Rosen: The incident had its origin within the reactor, contrary to what was declared in the Western press and in the initial Russians statements. The Russians told us that it happened within a very short period of time. There was one or several explosions, the ceiling of the fuel reloading hall caved in. This caused such extentive damage that the walls collapsed and the reloading machine and the crane dropped on the reactor. This caused fires within the whole area above the reactor which at that time possibly had not yet been sparked by graphite.

SPIEGEL: Did emergency plans exist for such a scenario?

Blix: No, we know nothing about emergency plans. Possibly there were some, but we did not discuss that with the Russians.

SPIEGEL: Why did you not ask?

Blix: This was not the main purpose of our trip. After all, we did not come as an investigating commission but rather wanted to talk about international cooperation and exchange of information.

SPIEGEL: But your organization publishes these many safety directives for such cases. Were you not interested in finding out whether your directives are at least read?

Rosen: We will ask the Russians when they come to Vienna.

Blix: I should perhaps add: If you talk on the spot with several people you will receive various answers, just like in the West. If you ask three people you will hear three different answers.

SPIEGEL: You are not positive that the reactor core really melted?

Rosen: Melting or burnout are terms generally used to designate the state in which the hot, melted nuclear fuel breaks through the reactor base. I assume that the fuel presumably melted in the graphite fire but that it did not penetrate the reactor base.

SPIEGEL: Why, then, do the Russians try to dig a tunnel underneath the reactor and fill it up with concrete?

Blix: They stated as their main reason that they intended to "Entomb" the whole thing, and they needed a foundation for that purpose.

SPIEGEL: There are four reactors in Chernobyl -- when were the other three turned off?

Blix: We did not ask about the exact time.

SPIEGEL: Was it on the night of the accident?

Rosen: During a reasonable period of time after the accident.

SPIEGEL: Do you know the extent of pollution in the environment of the power plant and in the Ukraine?

Blix: The Russians are confident that they will be capable of decontaminating the area. It will be agriculturally usable again.

SPIEGEL: How soon?

Blix: We did not talk about when they will begin or how long it will take.

SPIEGEL: How strong was radiation intensity -- 400 or even 1,000 rems?

Rosen: We did not ask.

SPIEGEL: Why not?

Rosen: We had not gone there to ascertain what dose of radiation has hit the people.

SPIEGEL: It is hardly comprehensible why you did not raise that question, since it is highly significant for the consequences in all neighboring countries.

Rosen: Whatever dose of radiation hit the people in the neighboring countries, after all, presumably remains without significant consequences.

Blix: It is, of course, very important to know how much fallout came down on the Ukraine and to what dose of radiation the people were exposed. Yet this surely has no bearing on the radiation load on Sweden or Finland.

SPIEGEL: Could you draw a tentative conclusion on how long the radiation effect on central Europe will continue?

Blix: Well, more important is the question of how much radioactivity altogether has been released.

Rosen: The Russians gave us some figures. I might say that I am relutant to divulge figures since they depend on where they were measured, whether the measurements were taken indoors or outdoors, and who supplied them, a technician or a politician who perhaps had only second-hand information.

SPIEGEL: But, Mr Blix, what you said generally applies: "It is clear that the radiation consequences of that accident are much more serious than those of any preceding accident?"

Blix: Yes, of course.

SPIEGEL: Valentin Falin, the boss of the Soviet news agency APN, stated in a SPIEGEL interview the other day that the list of the different accidents in the nuclear energy sector goes to show that the Russians are not among the worst.

Blix: Well, let him speak on his own behalf. So far we have not had any accident in a civilian nuclear power plant in the world that involved a significant release of radioactivity.

SPIEGEL: Falin says that this is but an accident of several, while you say it is the most serious one. What is the truth?

Rosen: I would like to reaffirm once again: If there had been an accident with greater release of radioactivity, it would definitely have been recorded by the UNSCEAR, the UN Scientific Committee for the Effects of Nuclear Radiation. I might even go farther and say that it has so far been the only accident, to our knowledge, in which a significant quantity of radioactivity has been released.

SPIEGEL: We are not, however, talking about the military nuclear tests in the fifties?

Blix: No, no. We are talking about civilian power plants.

SPIEGEL: Do you have any indication that even greater volumes of radiation were released in military tests than in Chernobyl?

Blix: No, we do not discuss these tests. The organization deals with the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

SPIEGEL: You are somewhat hesitant here. After all, the Chernobyl reactor, that special type, is not used for power generation alone but also for military purposes.

Blix: We do not know that. There were reports on that.

Rosen: I think one may state unequivocally that it can be used militarily.

SPIEGEL: Did you inquire about that in the Soviet Union?

Blix: No, but I can tell you that the reactor is on the list of those reactors that the Soviet Union last year offered us for inspection by our Safeguard Division. This division is verifying that no fissionable material from civilian power plants is used for military purposes. But we have never asked to inspect Chernobyl.

SPIEGEL: But it was known that this installation was supposed to be turned into the world's biggest nuclear power station. Hence, selecting Chernobyl would have been of great interest.

Blix: Well, our Safeguard Division made its choice.

SPIEGEL: Let us return to the incident. Take the helicopter pilots who dropped lead, sand, and boron on the reactor -- was that not a sort of kamikaze mission for them?

Rosen: They are not doing that anymore, though they did do it during the initial hours of the accident. I am positive that they were exposed to the radiation.

SPIEGEL: Strong radiation?

Blix: We do not know.

Rosen: Perhaps we should say that they were hit by significant doses of radiation.

Blix: But we do not have any clear idea. We really do not know how high the levels were.

Rosen: All I can tell you is this: When we were flying over the nuclear power plant at an altitute of 800 meters -- granted, it was a week and a half after the accident -- we recorded maximum readings of 375 milliroentgen per hour.

SPIEGEL: How can sand sacks be dropped directly into the reactor from an altitude of 800 meters?

Blix: We did not say that they had been dropped from an altitude of 800 meters.

Rosen: They used parachutes and therefore perhaps had to be farther away from the target point. But that is speculation as well.

SPIEGEL: Did you expect such an accident, especially in the Soviet Union?

Rosen: I think I can claim quite justly that I did not expect that.

SPIEGEL: Many experts have already criticized the safety standards in the Russian reactors. They do not have any "containment." Did you ever talk with the Russians about the inadequate safety of their reactors prior to the accident?

Rosen: We do not have any proof that they are faulty.

SPIEGEL: Can you tell whether the Soviet reactors are safer, or less safe, than the reactors in the West?

Blix: It is a different type.

SPIEGEL: A month prior to the accident Lyubov Kovalevska, obviously an insider, published in the journal LITERATURNAYA UKRAINE a report on the Chernobyl power plant. It constitutes a horror picture of mishaps that occurred during the construction of the reactor: slovenly work, decrepit material, dangerous haste. Did you read the report prior to the accident?

Blix: No, I did not read it.

Rosen: I know some of the commentaries made in that respect. There are similar reports on slovenliness in the construction of U.S. reactors.

SPIEGEL: This report, hence, did not make you nervous?

Rosen: Nervous, why?

SPIEGEL: Because of the dangers to mankind and environment...

Rosen: I am interested in commentaries on all reactors. I file that away for potential future reference.

SPIEGEL: Is it not rather necessary to create an organization like Amnesty International that will watch over the dangers of nuclear energy?

Blix: Amnesty is no organization on governmental level. We are a place at which governments get together and not a surveillance authority for nuclear safety.

SPIEGEL: But that would be urgently necessary.

Blix: Alright, then I would suggest that you support the idea, or exert influence on the German Government, in order to induce it to urge introduction of an international system under which an organization is allowed to inspect nuclear power plants and to ascertain the weak points of them, in the Soviet Union and elsewhere.

SPIEGEL: If we take a look at what you publish we gain the impression that your organization is nothing else but a public relations agency for the application of nuclear energy.

Blix: No, quite to the contrary. You are wrong there.

SPIEGEL: Your statutes state in part: "It is the aim of the IAEA to accelerate and increase throughout the world the contribution of nuclear energy to peace, health, and prosperity."

Blix: Yes, but we are not a public relations agency for nuclear energy. We spend only 0.8 percent of our $100 million budget on public relations work. Our Safeguard Division requires $33 million, and about $6 to 7 million goes to Mr Rosen's Nuclear Safety Department.

The task with which we must cope is supposed to be a contribution to enhanced safety, in that governments learn from one another in this sector and establish norms that they consider useful.

SPIEGEL: Fair enough, let us talk about norms: Nobody knows the lay of the land. Various governments and authorities provide the most diversified advice about ceiling levels for radiation and safety measures. Where are your norms?

Blix: There is about a total of 60 volumes with norms on safety in nuclear energy. We have directives in that area. It is up to the governments to adopt that and apply it accordingly.

SPIEGEL: Hence, you have the norms but nobody abides by them. This ought to change.

Blix: If the governments so desire, meaning all governments, then consequences will be reached.

TASHKENT HOSTS REPUBLIC-LEVEL PARTY WORK CONFERENCE

GF151339 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1200 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The republic-level seminary conference being held as part of the interrepublics courses in the Tashkent Higher Party School to upgrade the skills of innovators is currently discussing problems related to reorganizing and renewing the forms and methods applied in the work of the party committees as demanded by the 27th CPSU Congress. The newly elected second secretaries of the Uzbek Communist Party city and rayon party committees are taking part in the conference. Their attention has been focused on the ways and means to realize the decisions adopted by the historic congress of the communists and spur on the country's economic and social development.

The addresses being made in the conference note the need to create an atmosphere of sincerity, initiative, [?creativity), principle, and self-criticism everywhere. It is necessary to study individuals, establish the practical ways to resolve the tasks of the party organs, consolidate discipline and [word indistinct], take the views of individuals into consideration, [word indistinct] from the activity of the innovators, restrain rhetoric, and end backwardness and bureaucracy.

Comrade Antonov, secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the seminary conference on developing the agro-industrial complex and realizing the provisions program as called for by the 27th CPSU Congress. In his address, Comrade Dogonkin, chief of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, touched on matters related to the material aspect of the party work and the ways of reorganizing it. Comrade Mikhaylov, first deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers, dedicated his address to the work of the CPSU designed to constantly upgrade the welfare of the Soviet people and establish (?effective) social justice.

The seminary conference was also addressed by responsible officials of the republic's procurator's office and of the ministries and administrations. The meeting participants became acquainted with the work experience of a number of rayon party committees affiliated to Tashkent City and Oblast. The convocation will continue its work.

Conference Ends

GF181557 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0115 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] The republic-level seminary conference, held as part of the inter-republics courses in the Tashkent Higher Party School to upgrade the skills of the party and Soviet employees, which ended on 15 May, discussed the ways and means of (?reorganizing) the organizational and ideological work carried out by all the party committees in accordance with the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress. The seminary conference was attended by the newly elected second secretaries of the city and rayon party committees.

Comrade Salimov, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, addressed the convocation on the organization of the work forms and methods of the people's deputies soviets in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. Comrade Golovin, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Committee for State Security, addressed the meeting on a number of matters pertaining to the [words indistinct] of bourgeoisie ideology and morals and to imperialism's ideological [words indistinct]. Comrade Abdullayeva, chairman of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Party Commission, addressed the meeting on [words indistinct]

The convocation was also addressed by the responsible employees of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers, and the ministries and administrations and by learned experts.

AZERBAIJAN PARTY, GOVERNMENT APPROVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

GF151200 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0105 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers have approved a complex program drawn up by the State Planning Committee, the ministries and administrations, and the local party and soviet organs for securing a higher pace in the social and economic development of the mountain rayons by using their existing raw mineral materials and land, water, and work resources more productively. The program is in line with the main directions of Azerbaijan SSR's economic and social development from 1986 to 1990 and from 1990 to 2000.

A significant step will be taken in that direction during the 12th 5-Year Plan period, and over R200 million worth of funds will be allocated to the rural economy sectors of (Dzhumhua), Ordubad, (Shakhpur), (Obru), (Ushak), Dashkesen, (Dzhengivan), (Geberbey), (Kendesher), (Ubadly), Lachin, (Meri), (Shamiyan), Kend, and Yardymly Rayons. This is 1.8 times more than the figure realized during the past 5-year plan period. A total of 20 industrial objects will be established in the mountain rayons during the plan period and the funds allocated for the construction and maintenance of asphalted roads will be increased. A wide-ranging program has been established for the construction of houses and cultural centers.

UKRAINIAN AGRO-INDUSTRIAL OFFICIAL ON CHERNOBYL AFTERMATH

PM201528 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 16 May 86 p 3

[Interview with A.N. Tkachenko, first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, by S. Luzgan under the headline "Around Chernobyl" -- date and place not given; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] An operations headquarters has been set up attached to the Ukrainian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee to examine and resolve all issues connected with eliminating the consequences of the Chernobyl accident in the sphere of the agro-industrial complex. Minister A.N. Tkachenko, chief of the headquarters and first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, answers questions from our correspondent S. Luzgan.

[Luzgan] Aleksandr Nikolayevich, the readers of our newspaper are interested in knowing what the situation is in the villages. What is the general picture today in the fields and farms of the Ukraine, and how has the accident affected matters in the countryside?

[Tkachenko] The republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have virtually completed the sowing of spring crops. They cover more than 18 million hectares. This is almost 2.6 million hectares more than was under crops by mid-May last year. The crops are now being cultivated. Particular attention is being devoted to crops of the intensive kind. They now cover more than 9 million hectares in the republic. By extensively introducing scientific achievements, we are counting on perceptibly increasing the harvest yields of grain, vegetable, industrial, and other crops. I will cite the following detail. In past years at this stage farms had only just begun thinning out, for example, sugar beet plantations. But this year this urgent work has already been carried out over an area of almost 250,000 hectares. This is the general picture in the fields.

Livestock raisers are also working relatively well. Thanks to this, the republic overfulfilled the first 4 months' plans for the sale to the state of all types of farm products. Compared with the same period last year, more has been sold: Meat sales have increased by 8 percent, milk by 6 percent, and eggs by 7 percent.

With regard to the damage caused to agriculture by the accident, it is obvious. Agricultural production has ceased in a 30-km zone around the nuclear power plant. The population of the four neighboring rayons -- Ivankovskiy, Polesskiy, Makarovskiy, and Borodyanskiy -- has been evacuated (or, to be more precise, resettled) from the 30-km zone. [SELSKAYA ZHIZN 17 May carries the following correction: "The last sentence should read: 'The population has been evacuated (or, to be more precise, resettled) from the 30-km zone to four neighboring rayons: Ivankovskiy, Polesskiy, Makarovskiy, and Borodyanskiy."] More than 50,000 head of cattle, 9,000 pigs, and more than 1,000 units of equipment have been removed from the danger zone. Livestock maintained by rural inhabitants has also been removed. The deficit in agricultural products is being compensated for by increasing the area sown to corresponding crops in other rayons of the oblast.

[Luzgan] What has been done and is being done now to ensure that Chernobyl arable and livestock farmers evacuated from the danger zone are provided with all the facilities to begin working normally in the new areas?

[Tkachenko] It is clear that country people, particularly the elderly and those, what is more, with a peasant turn of mind, find it hard to leave the homes where they were born or which they have built with their own hands. This has been taken into consideration, and the maximum civic responsibility and simple human concern have been shown for the life and health of those people who are being resettled. It is not easy in such an exceptionally short space of time to pick up, load up, and transport whole settlements to a new place and find the housing and everything that people need. Both the state institutions and the rural residents themselves who have taken in those being resettled have done everything to ease their lot.

Today's concerns are more prosaic and ordinary. Prefabricated houses are being erected at a rapid rate to improve housing conditions for the new arrivals.

The majority of those resettled have now begun work. The necessary quantities of additional equipment, means of transport, building materials, and special clothing have been conveyed here.

New artesian wells are being sunk. Temporary shelter has been built for livestock or capital construction carried out, mobile milking installations are being equipped, and coarse, succulent, and mixed feed is being delivered.

[Luzgan] Aleksandr Nikolayevich, after the accident, territory adjacent to the nuclear power plant was partially polluted by radioactive substances. What precautionary measures are being taken?

[Tkachenko] This is the most important task today. There are 25 agrochemical service laboratories carrying out soil inspections. Water checks are regularly carried out at special posts belonging to the republic Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Service, and Ministry of Health. The Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control has more than 400 posts on the republic's water arteries. These posts have been instructed to carry out radiological surveys on rivers and reservoirs.

On farms surrounding the 30 km AES zone, where radiation, although safe, is somewhat high in comparison to the normal background radiation, cattle, other livestock, and fowl are being kept inside. Feed is being brought them from storehouses. They are being water to drink from wells. All milk here is being separated, cream is being made into butter, which is being placed in long storage, and the skimmed milk is being used to feed livestock. Meat and milk products are being brought to these farms from outside.

Special control has been established over raw materials and products being produced in territory adjacent to the nuclear power plant, and also over products supplied to residents of Kiev. A doublecheck is being made on raw materials, covering where they are produced and where they are processed. All food products coming into the city are also being monitored Vegetable products are being shipped in to the Ukrainian capital mainly from protected-soil areas. On all kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the suburban zone, hot house farming is being organised to facilitate repeat cultivation of early vegetables. Stores are washing radishes and green vegetables. All food products coming in from the fields and farms are being carefully checked. All control is based on the principle: soil - crops - livestock - livestock products - man. We cannot be too cautious in this sphere.

The Ukraine has been visited by responsible workers from the USSR State Agricultural Committee and prominent scientists from the All-Union V.I. Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences. They have offered a number of valuable proposals aimed at eliminating the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. The republic State Agro-industrial Committee and the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences have set up an authoritative commission. Its task is to draw up provisional recommendations right away on rules for performing agricultural work in regions partially subjected to pollution by radioactive substances. Despite everything, the events at Chernobyl have once again demonstrated to the whole world with new force both the organization and the responsibility of Soviet people. In a difficult situation, they have shown and continue to show good sense, calm, steadfastness, and courage. The entire country has come to the Ukraine's aid.

MUD SLIDES DESTROY ROADS, BRIDGES IN UZBEKISTAN

LD202239 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 20 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] There was apparently no forewarning of the bad weather. The rainclouds gathered suddenly and the mighty mudflow from the Kuraminskiy Mountains burst with lightning speed upon the plain below the mountains. This is all that was left after the downpour of the healthy and strong shoots of cotton and other plants. [Video shows field of mud with a few flattened plants]

Virtually all the fields were inundated with water. The mudflow destroyed roads and bridges, hydro-installations and the irrigation network of collective farms. Homes in (Kasansayskiy) rayon were afflicted. Whatever the elements may bring, man wins through. The local party and soviet organs are taking effective measures to eliminate the consequences of the mud cyclone. The people of Kasansay are displaying calm and organization. The cleaning up of the drifted mud from the streets is taking place using the national campaign method. Additional machinery has been allocated for the repair of hydro-technical installations. Life is returning to normal. [Video shows empty street, leaden skies, rushing water, sodden fields, rubble of building, men shoveling earth, earth-moving machinery]

CSA REPORTS PROGRESS IN SPRING FIELD WORK

PM191408 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May 86 Morning Edition p 2

[V. Gavrichkin "Agricultural Review": "Devote Every Hour to the Harvest"]

[Excerpt] The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that by 12 May spring crops had been sown in the country on 77.2 million hectares, or 53 percent of the total area; including grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) on 47 percent. Grain corn occupies 3.7 million hectares. Potatoes have been planted on 1.5 million hectares and vegetables on 883,000 hectares.

Throughout this period crop farmers have been counting the hours, because spring days, as the saying goes, provide food for the rest of the year. And spring days are now in full swing everywhere. In the country's southern oblasts sowing work is ending and in places machine operators are already harvesting crops. In the Ukraine, for instance, spring crops occupy 18.6 million hectares. The center of work has moved to the row crop fields. Sugar beets have been sown, potato planting is nearing completion, and the sowing of hulled crops, cucurbits, and truck crops is in full swing. Crop tending in the grain fields, which have been watered by the May rains in many places, is in full swing -- grain farmers are tending the crops according to their stages of development. In the stores of Kiev and other industrial centers vegetable farmers are delivering produce from "truck farms" under glass and plastic: Since the start of the season the farmers of Kiev Oblast alone have delivered over 10,000 metric tons of early and green vegetables to the trade network -- considerably more than a year ago.

The crop farmers of Tula, Orel, and Lipetsk Oblasts and the Mordovian and Chuvash ASSR's are working at a good rate. Sowing work has gathered momentum in Belorussia and the Baltic republics. Its intensive rhythm can be conveyed in just a single figure: 14.7. That is how many million hectares of spring crops have been sown in the last 7 days. This is less than last week but it must be borne in mind that the optimum period for wheat sowing in our largest grain-producing region in the east of the country has only just arrived. Thus, the grain farmers of the Trans-Ural Region, Western Siberia, and Kazakhstan's virgin land oblasts have not yet made their mark.

And there is no doubt that it will be a weighty one. Thousands of sowing machines, mostly wide-cut and combined machines, have been in action. The main aim now is to retain the moisture.

EARLY MAY WEATHER, CROP STATUS REPORTED

PM191123 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 May 86 p 1

[Agrometeorologist A. Grishina report under the rubric "The USSR Hydrometeorological Center Reports: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] There was a sharp drop in temperature on the USSR's European territory at the beginning of the first 10 days of May. In the majority of regions, including Moldavia, the southern Ukraine, and Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays, there were nighttime air and ground frosts of minus 1-4 degrees, going down to minus 6 degrees in places. Only on individual days did the daytime air temperature rise to 25-30 degrees in Moldavia, in southern and central oblasts of the Ukraine, in the North Caucasus Region, and in the south of the Volga Region.

There was considerable rainfall (15-45 mm, in places 50-80 mm) in the eastern Ukraine, in Krasnodar Kray, in the west of Stavropol Kray, over the majority of the Central Chernozem Region, in the southeast of the Central Region, and in the Volga and Urals Regions. On individual days precipitation fell as snow in northern oblasts of the Urals Region and in the east of the Northern Region. A temporary snow cover was established there.

Stem growth continued on winter grain crops over the majority of the territory. Winter barley formed ears in the North Caucasus autonomous republics and in the south of Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays. Shoots of spring barley, wheat, and oats appeared in Belorussia, in the south of the Central Region, and in the Central Volga Region. Spring barley and oats are tillering in the Ukraine, in Rostov Oblast, and in the Lower Volga Region, while the stem formation stage has been noted on spring barley in the south.

Corn shoots have appeared in Moldavia, in southern Ukrainian oblasts, and in Krasnodar Kray, while the emergence of the third leaf has been noted on earlier sowings. Formation of the second pair of real leaves has been noted on sunflowers and sugar beets there.

By 10 May the limit of apple blossom had advanced to the southern rayons of Lithuania, Belorussia, and Bryansk, Lipetsk, and Kuybyshev Oblasts. Cherry blossom was observed south of a line linking Riga, Ryazan, and Kuybyshev. Inflorescences are forming in vinyards in Moldavia and in the south of the Ukraine and the North Caucasus.

In the Transcaucasian republics the weather was warm in the first half of the 10-day period. Then there was a drop in temperature everywhere. Air and ground frosts were noted in Georgia and Armenia. Rain fell in the majority of rayons. Winter wheat began to form ears in Armenia and Azerbaijan. The first real leaf has appeared on early sowings of cotton in Azerbaijan. Inflorescences are forming in Transcaucasian vinyards.

Following warm weather, there was a sharp drop in temperature in West Siberia and the northwest oblasts of Kazakhstan. At night the temperature fell to minus 1-10 degrees. Rain fell in the majority of rayons, amounting to a total of 15-35 mm and, in places, more than 35 mm. On individual days rain with snow was noted in West Siberia. A temporary snow cover was established.

In the Central Asian republics there was a rise in temperature at the beginning of the 10-day period, and hot weather set in. The third real leaf appeared on cotton plants in Mary, Chardzhou, Kashka-darya, Surkhan-darya, and Kulyab Oblasts. Under favorable weather conditions the flowering of fruit crops ended, and the young fruits began forming and growing. Flowering was observed on vine plantations in southern rayons. Side shoots formed on tomato plants, and they flowered in places, and cucumber leaves formed. Alfalfa flowed in southern rayons. First cuttings of this crop began in Mary and Kulyab Oblasts at the start of the 10-day period.